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REPORT

ON THE

ADMINISTRATION

OF THE

MADRAS PRESIDENCY

FOR THE YEAR

1928–29

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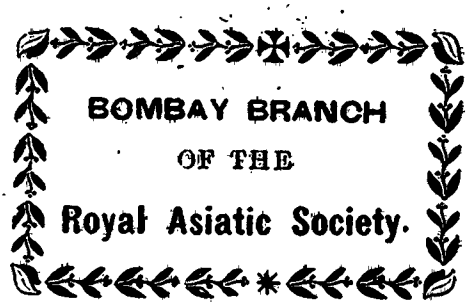

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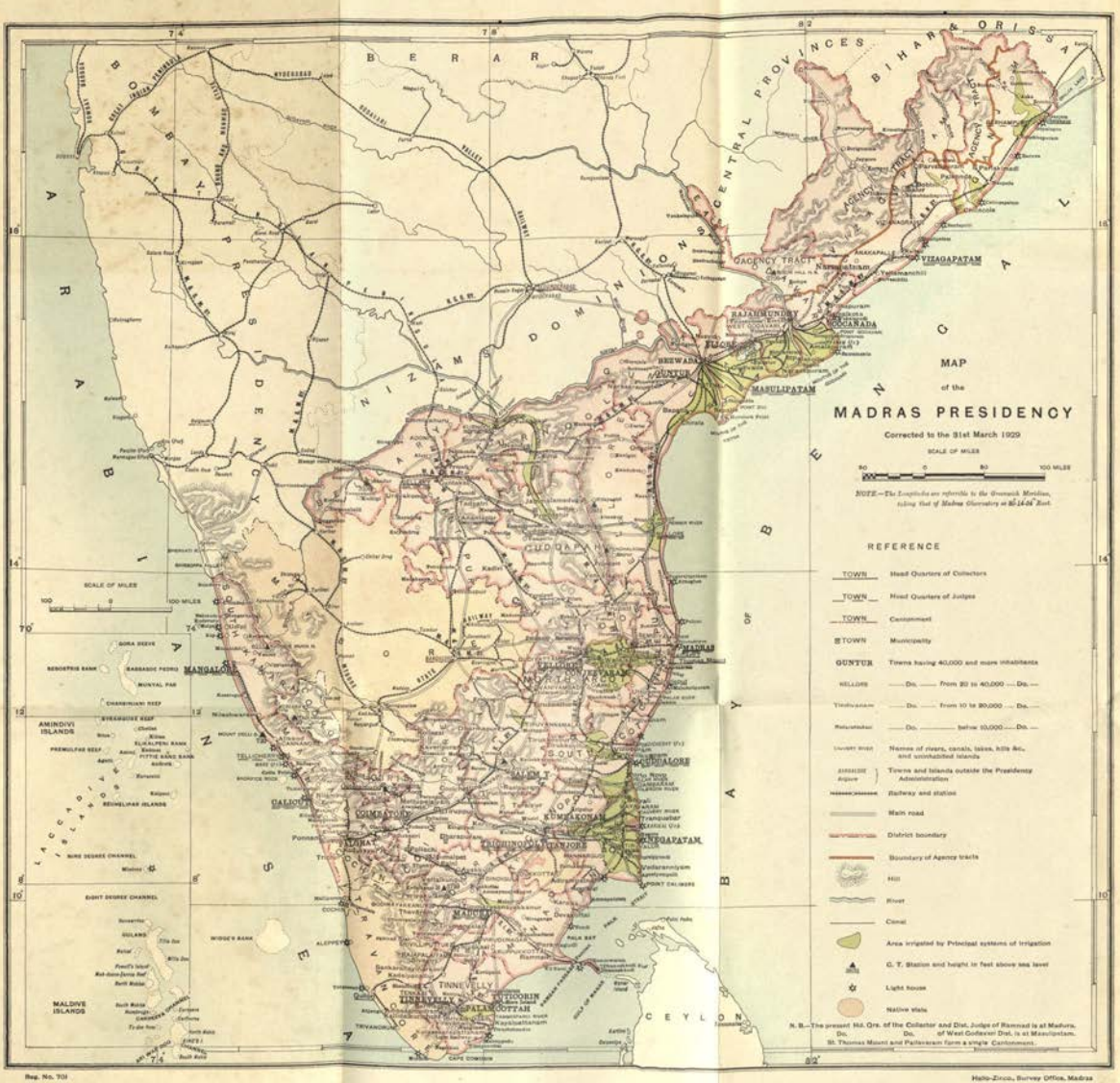

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1929

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PREFATORY NOTE

In compliance with the orders of the Government of India, Part I of this publication—the "General Summary"—deals with the calendar year 1929 and Part II—the main report—with the official year 1928–29 except where it is specifically stated otherwise.

PART I.

GENERAL SUMMARY

General

1. The year 1929 was in many ways an eventful one. Politically, the labours of the Indian Statutory Commission, the Viceroy's statement regarding Dominion Status and the intention to hold a "Round-table" Conference on further reforms and the Report of the Indian Central Committee gave rise to considerable discussion and speculation. The Report of the Hartog Committee, though not satisfying all points of view, was generally acclaimed as a valuable contribution to the problem of education. The passing of the Sarda's Child Marriage Bill excited keen controversy, ranging from its description as "a land mark in thehistory of British legislation in India" on the one hand, to the bitter opposition of orthodoxy and Moslem agitation for exclusion from its operation on the other. The year was also memorable for His Excellency the Viceroy's extensive tour through the Presidency in the months of November and December; His Excellency visited several important centres and received an enthusiastic welcome everywhere.

From the economic point of view, the year was one of comparative prosperity and was marked by a decrease in the volume of grave crime. The monsoons were good; the south-west monsoon was rather disappointing in some districts up to September, but subsequent heavy rains restored agricultural prospects to normal. Trade was

brisk, a noticeable feature being the phenomenal increase in the number of companies newly registered.

Financially, the year 1929–30 is expected to close with a surplus of about Rs. 91 lakhs in spite of the extra expenditure involved in a certain expansion in Government activities, notably in the important spheres of education, medical relief and civil works.

In the sphere of education, several committees appointed by the local Government to consider various special aspects of education were at work or presented their reports during the year; and the Annamalai University began its career.

Labour was on the whole quiet. Such strikes as did occur were orderly and sprang from discontent with wages and similar grievances. Attempts by politicians to win the support of labour for political movements were not wanting, but met with little success; in fact, many speakers at labour meetings warned their audiences against taking any part in politics and participating in unnecessary strikes. Certain important leaders also urged the exclusion of communists from labour organizations and the establishment of direct contact with the English trade union movement.

His Excellency Viscount Goschen was appointed to act as Governor-General of India in the absence on leave of His Excellency Lord Irwin and the Hon'ble Sir Norman Marjoribanks, K.C.I.E., C.S.I., Member of Council, who was appointed to act as Governor of the Presidency of Fort St. George in his place, assumed office on the afternoon of the 29th June 1929. The Hon'ble Mr. A. Y. G. Campbell, C.S.I., C.B.E., V.D., I.C.S., was appointed temporary

Member of Council and the Hon'ble Khan Bahadur Sir Muhammad Usman Sahib Bahadur, Vice-President of the Executive Council, from the afternoon of the same day. On the forenoon of the 12th November 1929 His Excellency Lieutenant-Colonel the Right Ho'ble Sir George Frederick Stanley, P.C., G.C.I.E., C.M.G., took upon himself the execution of his office as Governor of the Presidency of Fort St. George. The Hon'ble Sir Norman Marjoribanks resumed office as Member of Council and was appointed Vice-President of the Executive Council from the forenoon of the same day.

Political

2. Political activities at the beginning of the year were chiefly concerned with the second visit of the Indian Statutory Commission to Madras. Congress circles were busy with arrangements for boycotting the Commission and the energies of both mufassal and Madras enthusiasts were concentrated on the programme for the city. But the outcome of their activities was negligible and no special police measures were found necessary. The members of the Commission and the Central Committee landed in Madras on the morning of the 18th and received and replied to several addresses at the South Quay. Police arrangements were admirable and a procession of about 700, led by a prominent Congressman, was kept in order by the Police and shepherded without any untoward incident away from the business quarters of the city. The "hartal" was almost a complete failure ; the law courts carried on their business undisturbed and in spite of the efforts of the boycotters to enlist the sympathies of the students, there was very little trouble in the colleges and schools. After their arrival the Commission

proceeded with their sittings and attended various special functions given in their honour without hostile demonstrations of any kind.

The report of the Madras Provincial Committee appointed to co-operate with the Commission was presented to the Legislative Council in August. This was made the occasion for a "walk-out" by the members of the Congress Party and some of the members of the Independent Party also followed suit. Discussion on the motion that the report of the Madras Committee be sent to the Commission then proceeded and the motion was finally carried.

The influence and prestige of the Congress as a political organization in the Presidency has not increased. At a meeting organized to observe "All-India Political Sufferers' Day" the leader of the party went out of his way to deplore its lack of discipline both in the Council and the Corporation. Personal differences among prominent Swarajists were in evidence more than once during the year. As a result of the stress on complete independence laid by the Congress leader of the Province, a new Nationalist Party by name "The Nation First Party" was formed on the two planks of Dominion Status and anti-communalism and some propaganda was carried on in the mufassal. The creed of non-acceptance of office was not to the liking of many Congressmen of the Province. This, coupled with personal differences among the leaders, culminated in the formation of a third party styled the "Nationalist Party" with a programme of acceptance of office and capture of seats in local and municipal bodies. The two new parties, however, have not met with any material measure of success.

The other activities of the Congress Party continued on the usual lines. The arrest of Mr. Gandhi at Calcutta and his subsequent tour in the Circars gave a temporary fillip to the khadder movement and the campaign against foreign cloth. A few discarded garments were consigned to the flames in various places, but on the whole Mr. Gandhi's visit was only successful from the monetary point of view. Several meetings were held in connexion with the death of Jatindranath Das, which was extolled as a sacrifice for the sake of a principle and the nationalist press made it the opportunity for a general attack on the treatment of political prisoners. Untouchability and the uplift of the depressed classes also formed the subject of addresses, notably by two speakers from outside the Province.

The youth organizations in the city hitherto confining themselves to social and educational matters are taking to politics and the Madras Youth Conference held in February decided to boycott the Simon Commission. A counter-organization called the "1929 Youth Conference," however, sprang up among non-Brahman youths and they presented an address to the Commission on their arrival Several organizations were started in Madras, Salem, Guntūr, Vizagapatam and Tuticorin, and a certain amount of desultory activity in connexion with physical culture, prohibition and rural reconstruction wàs noticeable. At the Youth Conference held during the session of the Āndhra Provincial Political Conference, the President made an appeal to youth to join the political struggle, which he expected in 1930. A branch of the Hindustan Seva Dal was opened in Madras in March 1929 and nominal branches in various other

centres, but the movement has not so far become popular. The Dal's aims and its methods of training were explained at a conference held at Bezwada on the 4th November.

The eleventh Non-Brahman Confederation which met at Nellore decided not to admit Brahmans into the federation or the council party. The party is lending its support to the self-respect movement, which has created a good deal of enthusiasm among non-Brahmans. The communalistic tendencies of the non-Brahman movement and the present land revenue system were severely criticised by Mr. Vallabhai Patel in his Presidential address at the Tamil Nadu Provincial Conference, which was chiefly memorable for the rejection of a resolution recommending independence as the goal of the Congress. The Andhra Provincial Political Conference at Bezwada, however, passed a resolution advocating complete independence, but there was a strong trend of feeling in favour of accepting the Viceroy's announcement and awaiting the report of the Statutory Commission.

A resolution to organize a "united single Muslim party" to run the forthcoming elections in the Muslim interests was defeated by a narrow majority in the Madras Provincial Muslim Conference held towards the close of the year. The conference denounced the Nehru Report as aiming at the political supremacy of the Hindus, and urged adequate representation of Muslim interests in the proposed "Round-table" Conference.

His Excellency the Viceroy's announcement regarding Dominion Status and the "Round-table" Conference was well received in political circles and by almost all sections of the press, and the subsequent debates in Parliament were

followed with keen interest. The statement issued by the "Leaders" at Delhi evoked varying comments. The breakdown of the conference between His Excellency the Viceroy and the political leaders was deplored by all except the independence school of Congressmen. On the whole the proposed Round table Conference is being looked forward to with quiet optimism and many prominent leaders are canvassing opinion in its favour.

The chief topics of interest at the end of the year were the report of the Indian Central Committee and the proceedings of the Lahore Congress. General support was accorded to many of the recommendations of the Central Committee. As regards the Congress, even such a staunch supporter of its cause as the "Hindu" was not very enthusiastic about the carrying of the independence resolution and was openly critical of the suggested repudiation of certain debts. Work in the Council has been such an integral part of the activities of local Congressmen—in fact the question of accepting office was once engaging their serious attention during the year—that the call of the Congress to boycott the Councils will probably reduce the strength of its following in the Presidency.

Economic

3. The south-west monsoon commenced on the West Coast in the last week of May, and was active till about the middle of July, except for short breaks in the second and last weeks of June. Elsewhere the rains received in June, July, and August were generally inadequate, except in the Nilgiris, and much below the average in the Deccan, with the result that the sowings in several districts were retarded. The rainfall in the latter half of September was, however, fairly copious

and well distributed throughout the Presidency, and the prospects for agriculture which had been rather gloomy, especially in the Ceded Districts, considerably improved, the area brought under cultivation being almost normal.

The north-east monsoon set in in the last week of October with adequate rains in most of the districts. The outlook is generally satisfactory.

There were floods during the year in the districts of Malabar and South Kanara. Owing to exceptionally heavy rainfall during the first week of July, large tracts in three taluks in each of the two districts were flooded. The rains were, however, short and the floods soon subsided. Nine head of cattle were lost, four persons were drowned, and two were killed by the collapse of houses. Most of the houses damaged by the floods were repaired immediately. There was no serious damage to crops, and no special relief measures were called for.

Legislative Council

4. The Madras Legislative Council sat on forty-seven days during the year of which forty were allotted to official and seven to non-official business. Ten official Bills were passed during the year. The Madras University (Amendment) Act contained provisions for the abolition of the Council of Affiliated Colleges, and the reorganization of the Senate, the Academic Council and the Syndicate. It defined the duties and powers of various University authorities and rectified several defects experienced in the working of the Madras University Act, 1923. The Madras Services Commission Act provided for the constitution of the Madras Services Commission and empowered the Commission to exercise advisory functions regarding the recruitment of officers in the Presidency, except

those belonging to the All-India and Central Services. The Madras City Police (Amendment) Act was intended to suppress "bucket" shops in the City. The Madras Port Trust (Amendment) Act introduced a new section in the Act of 1905 enabling the Port Trust Board to constitute reserve funds for meeting emergent expenditure. The Malabar Tenancy Bill was intended to alter certain parts of the law relating to landlord and tenant in the district of Malabar. It gave a qualified fixity of tenure to various classes of cultivators, defined the grounds on which they could be evicted and contained provisions for the fixing of fair rents and renewal fees.

Nine non-official Bills were passed during the year. Four of them related to the Andhra University. Their aim was to concentrate all the Honours and post-graduate courses at the headquarters of the University, to remove the headquarters to Vizagapatam and to exclude Chittoor and the Ceded Districts from the jurisdiction of the Andhra University. The Madras District Municipalities (Amendment) Act was intended to secure to members of the depressed classes free access to all streets, markets, wells, tanks and reservoirs vested in or maintained by Municipal Councils. The Madras Abkāri (Amendment) Act was intended to secure the attendance of disinterested witnesses at searches conducted under the Act and also to enable the levy of fees, according to a prescribed scale, on clubs selling liquor to their members. The Madras Hindu Religious Endowment (Amendment) Act provided for the enfranchisement of devadasi inams.

As a result of a motion carried in the Council the Assistant Secretary was deputed to study

Parliamentary practice in England. Another motion carried related to the formation of a Committee to enquire into the economic conditions of the districts of Kistna, East Gōdāvari and West Gōdāvari in which resettlement operations had been in progress. Fifteen notices of adjournment motions were received to " discuss definite matters of urgent public importance," of which two were not moved, seven were held to be not in order by the President and one disallowed by His Excellency the Governor. Only one was carried.

There were 1,848 motions on the budget. No budget allotments were certified by His Excellency the Governor.

Police

5. The decrease in the volume of grave crime, which was a feature of 1928, continued in the year under report. Of the important classes of offences, thefts alone increased slightly in number, while dacoities, robberies, house-breakings and thefts of cattle showed a decrease ranging from 4 to 13 per cent. The general fall is attributed to favourable seasonal conditions and systematic and efficient preventive work. The percentage of cases detected remained about the same as in the previous year. Considerable progress was made in bringing under control the dangerous and wandering gang of Thottia Naicks and the more important work of their settlement and reclamation was commenced.

The Criminal Investigation Department was reorganized. As a result the Deputy Inspector-General of Police, Railways and Eastern Range, was relieved of his duties connected with the Special Branch and the Criminal Investigation Department and the four ranges of Deputy Inspectors-General were reconstituted. Two District

Superintendents of Police, working directly under the Inspector-General, were placed in charge of the Crime and the Special Branches. The Armed Reserves of the districts of Ganjām, Vizagapatam, Jeypore and East Gōdāvari were also reorganized. With a view to efficient administration the principal Kallar areas in the Madura district were constituted into a separate district called South Madura and the Superintendent of Kallar Reclamation was appointed as the District Superintendent of Police. The unification of control thus effected has led to increased co-operation between the Police and Kallar panchayatdars and to an improvement in the registration and detection of crime.

Important administrative changes were also carried out in the Madras City Police. The departments of Law and Order, Crime and of Traffic and Licensing were separated and each was placed in charge of a Deputy Commissioner. Two Assistant Commissioners were appointed in the department of Law and Order and one in the Crime department. A Central Crime Station dealing with all important crime in the city was instituted. Good results attended the supersession of the old system of beats and patrols by an arrangement designed to meet the varying requirements of different localities. The traffic staff was increased to meet the growing needs of the city and a distinct advance has been made in the regulation and control of traffic. A photographic studio was opened on the 1st July 1929 and has done valuable work.

Rewards were freely granted both to the police and to private individuals, several being given in connexion with the South Indian Railway strike.

One Indian Assistant District Superintendent of Police and two Deputy Superintendents of Police were appointed by direct recruitment. The services of a District Superintendent of Police and of a Deputy Superintendent of Police were placed at the disposal of the Government of India.

The King's Police Medal was awarded to the Commissioner of Police and to a head constable. The title of C.I.E. was conferred on the Inspector-General of Police, while six officers received Indian titles. The South Arcot District Police team secured the first place in the All-India Ambulance Competition held at Gwalior in March 1929.

Criminal justice

6. There was a general decline in the volume of grave crimes except in Bellary, Chittoor, Ganjām and Tanjore. The appallingly high incidence of murder continued in Coimbatore and Madura, while Cuddapah was entirely free from glaring murders.

A deplorable incident of the mediæval superstition of the ordeal by fire was reported from South Arcot. There was a theft of some money belonging to a number of petty Muhammadan shop-keepers. The persons suspected of the theft were compelled to vindicate their innocence by dipping their hands into a can containing boiling oil. At Pattukkottai, the Assistant Ceylon Labour Commissioner and Inspector of Emigrants, Trichinopoly, who was doing some propaganda work, was assaulted by some ruffians under the pretext that he was kidnapping children.

Political offences were on the whole conspicuous by their absence. Certain unruly characters in Madras were bound over under the preventive sections of the Criminal Procedure Code during

the second visit of the Indian Statutory Commission.

Civil justice

7. There was no marked change in the quantity and character of civil litigation in the Presidency during the year. The number of original suits instituted in the superior courts showed a general tendency to increase but it was nearly normal in the courts of district munsifs. The increasing popularity of village and panchayat courts was responsible for a fall in the number of small cause suits instituted in District Munsif's courts.

Two additional sub-judges and seven additional district munsifs, including three officers on judicial training, were employed in the course of the year. Four sub-courts and two additional sub-judges were made permanent.

The number of cases instituted in the City Civil Court, Madras, continued to be high. The year was marked by an increase in the number of suits for the restitution of conjugal rights and for maintenance. The number of suits instituted in the Court of Small Causes, Madras, showed a decided increase.

The strength of the judges in the High Court was permanently raised to fourteen by the confirmation of the two additional judges at the close of 1928. As only two judges sat on the original side during a greater part of the year, there was an increase in the arrears of civil suits in spite of a fall in the number instituted. On the appellate side the restoration of the system of hearing second appeals by a single judge resulted in a marked increase in their disposal.

Prisons

8. As the accommodation in the Tanjore Borstal School was found insufficient, owing to the

large number of commitments under the Borstal Schools Act, the District Jail, Palamcottah, was converted during the year into a regular Borstal School. Sections were opened in the Central jails at Rajahmundry, Vellore, Trichinopoly and Cannanore for the concentration of adolescents not dealt with under the Borstal Schools Act. A new Special Jail was also opened at Bellary for the segregation and treatment of prisoners suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis.

The daily average population of convicts and civil prisoners fell during the year, while that of under-trial prisoners increased slightly. The health of the prisoners was very satisfactory, the number of deaths showing a considerable decline. Pulmonary tuberculosis accounted for 28 deaths as compared with 42 in the previous year. Jail discipline continued to be good. There was a fall in the number of prison offences and corporal punishment had to be resorted to in only three cases. Technical training in various arts and industries was provided for all prisoners and compulsory elementary education was imparted to those under thirty years of age. Many lectures and practical demonstrations, often illustrated by lantern slides, were given to convicts by members of the medical and teaching staff on subjects such as public health, sanitation and social welfare. Ambulance and First-aid training now forms a part of the curriculum in all jails and Borstal and Certified schools. Selected teams were sent to Gwalior to compete in the All-India St. John's Ambulance Competition and the Palamcottah Borstal Team obtained the second prize in the competition for the Jegamal Raja Ambulance Challenge Shield.

One hundred and nine prisoners were conditionally released on the recommendation of the Advisory Boards, 378 under the scheme of premature release of Mappilla Rebellion prisoners and nearly 300 under the orders of Government. Forty-five State prisoners were released from jail for detention under police surveillance. One hundred and fourteen prisoners were sent to the Andamans in connexion with the scheme for the colonization of those islands.

There was a considerable increase in the daily average number of inmates in Borstal Institutes. The Borstal system of training has proved so successful that it was extended to adult offenders in certain jails. The Borstal Association is being reorganized with a view to increase its usefulness to ex-Borstal boys. A special Sub-Committee of the Madras Discharged Prisoners' Aid Society has also been formed to deal with the same subject.

The year was also marked by a successful working of the Madras Children Act and overcrowding became imminent in all Government Certified Schools. It is proposed to establish a junior and senior certified school for girls in Madras, with a juvenile court and remand homes for boys and girls on the premises.

Registration and companies

9. As a result of various administrative changes effected during the year, the number of separate subordinate registry offices increased from 558 to 563. The total number of documents registered showed a decrease by about two per cent, mainly due to favourable agricultural conditions and the low price of paddy and other food grains.

As many as 110 new companies were registered during the year as compared with 57 in the

previous year, thus indicating a distinct improvement in trade conditions. The number that ceased to exist decreased from 41 to 40. The largest flotations of the year were the All-India Crop Insurance and General Developments, Limited, with an authorized capital of Rs. 6 crores and the Bank of Chettinad, Limited, with a capital of Rs. 3 crores. About 70 per cent of the new flotations were either banking companies or trading and manufacturing concerns. A welcome feature is an increase in the number of Provident Insurance Societies newly registered. As it was deemed necessary to have a special Act to deal with Nidhis, a draft Bill was submitted to Government in October 1929.

Co-operation

10. Government have passed orders on almost all the recommendations of the Townsend Committee on co-operation, as a direct result of which the permanent retention of the four temporary Deputy Registrars sanctioned during the previous year, and the creation of six additional posts of Deputy Registrars has been ordered ; the standard of one Inspector for the audit of sixty co-operative societies as also a uniform scale of one Inspector for the supervision of 25 Depressed Class Societies has been accepted ; and liberal subsidies have been granted to District Federations of Unions to enable them to conduct classes for the training of panchayatdars and rural co-operators. A temporary post of a Deputy Registrar to provide for a lecturer in co-operation in the Government Institute of Commerce, Madras, was also sanctioned. Two Sub-Deputy Registrars were appointed temporarily for a period of five years to conduct training classes at Coimbatore and Vellore. The post of Joint Registrar was made permanent. The subordinate staff was also considerably strengthened.

During the year attention was devoted more to the rectification and consolidation of existing societies than to the formation of new ones. There was an improvement in the payments of dues by the members to the societies and by the societies to the central banks. Emphasis was laid on the need of the funds of the societies being readily accessible and with this end in view a system was recommended, whereby societies may, before the collection season, apply to the central banks for grant of loans, to be drawn upon for four months from a specified date, all undrawn amounts lapsing at the end of the period. Considerable efforts were made to secure an increase in the short-term transactions of primary societies and central banks with satisfactory results and in districts with heavy overdues the organization of new societies was confined only to those dealing with the provision of short-term credit. Societies were also advised to hold regular weekly meetings so as to rouse and maintain the interest of the members in their activities and ideals.

District Federations have amply justified their existence. To make their work more effective they were required to pool all supervision funds, to combine the staff into a district cadre and to employ a chief executive officer for each district. Government have also permitted Deputy Registrars and Sub-Deputy Registrars to serve on the Federations and it is likely that their association will improve the efficiency of both the official and non-official supervising staff.

Five Training Institutes at Tanjore, Coimbatore, Anantapur, Vellore and Bezwada were registered separately as co-operative institutes and towards

the close of the year a sixth school was opened at Rajahmundry. In collaboration with the Provincial Co-operative Union their by-laws were framed so as to provide for the centralization of control of teaching, examination and syllabus in a committee appointed for the purpose.

An important feature of the year was the opening of the Central Land Mortgage Bank, with a view to float debentures and to surmount certain other difficulties hitherto encountered in the working of the primary land mortgage banks. Under the new scheme the primary banks will be affiliated to and borrow the required funds from the Central Land Mortgage Bank. Government have sanctioned the appointment of two Deputy Registrars and ten Sub-Deputy Registrars for work in connexion with the Bank. A land mortgage bank was also started for the benefit of the Badagas of the Nilgiris.

The development of the co-operative movement since the existing Co-operative Societies Act, 1912 (Act II of 1912) was passed, has made it necessary to revise the law relating to co-operative societies in this Presidency. The Townsend Committee have observed certain defects in the existing law and recommended that they may be rectified by suitable legislation. A Draft Bill has been prepared embodying the results of the experience of the movement in this Presidency and rectifying the existing defects. A conference of leading co-operators was summoned to discuss the Bill, which is now under the consideration of Government.

Local boards and municipalities

11. During the year the division of the Chingleput local fund taluk into two taluks, Chingleput and Madurantakam, was sanctioned

by Government. Four Union Boards were dissolved and reconstituted and the abolition of as many unions was approved. The Anakapalle Municipal Council was superseded for a period of two years, being found incompetent to discharge its duties and a Special Officer was appointed to conduct the municipal administration. Comprehensive Bills to amend the Madras Local Boards Act, 1920, and the Madras District Municipalities Act, 1920, were introduced in the Legislative Council and referred to Select Committees.

Trade and ports

12. The most noticeable feature of the year was the considerable expansion in the coasting trade of the Presidency, the value of coastwise imports rising by Rs. 72·94 lakhs and that of coastwise exports by Rs. 152·78 lakhs. The total value of foreign trade remained almost stationary, an increase of Rs. 1·05 crores in imports being set off by a decrease of Rs. 1·01 crores in that of exports. Imports of sovereigns, cotton twist and yarn, cotton piece-goods, mineral oils, sugar, machinery and mill work, rubber manufactures, manures and liquor increased, while there were decreases chiefly of rice and paddy, metals and ores, motor cars and silver. The decrease in the value of exports was mainly due to reduced despatches of tanned hides and skins, coffee, rice and paddy, coir manufactures, tobacco and raw skins. There were however increased shipments of raw cotton, tea, groundnut seeds, shawls, coloured cotton piece-goods and handkerchiefs. The trade of the Presidency with the British Empire showed a decrease of Rs. 107·41 lakhs.

The Port of Madras passed through a prosperous year. The total tonnage of goods handled and the gross revenue were almost as high as they

were in the previous year, while the net profits showed an appreciable increase. The Port of Tuticorin also had a successful year, although the gross revenue fell owing to the decrease in the imports of railway materials for the South Indian Railway and of coal and cotton. The number of steamers calling at the Port has been steadily increasing.

A new warehouse was brought into use at Madras. Harbour works at Cochin and various improvements at several of the minor ports were in progress during the year.

Agriculture

13. The Agricultural Advisory Committee, appointed to formulate specific proposals for putting into force such of the recommendations of the Royal Commission on Agriculture as applied directly to this Presidency, met on seven occasions and discussed several recommendations of the Commission. A detailed scheme of reorganization and progressive development of the department was submitted to Government by the Director of Agriculture and the recommendations of the Royal Commission were as far as possible incorporated in the scheme. Government have generally approved these proposals and have provided funds in the budget for 1929-30 for giving effect to some of them. The most important of these relate to the posts of an Oil-seed Specialist and a Head, quarters Deputy Director, which have been created during the year, the former to develop oil-seed crops and the latter mainly to direct demonstration and propaganda throughout the Presidency. The report submitted by a Committee, appointed to examine the possibility of introducing agriculture in the curriculum of the secondary and middle schools on the lines adopted in the

Punjab, is under the consideration of Government.

A Personal Assistant to the Principal was appointed in the Agricultural College, Coimbatore, and some changes were effected in the light of the remarks of the University Commission which inspected the College in November 1928. The results of the University examinations were very satisfactory. The Agricultural Middle School at Taliparamba continued to function and another was opened at Usilampatti for the benefit of the Kallars.

The multiplication and trial of improved strains of paddy, manurial and cultural experiments and the study of the inheritance of characters were continued at the four paddy-breeding stations in the Presidency. Similar experiments on cotton were also carried on. The results of experiments on sugarcane conducted at Anakapalle have clearly shown the advantages of early planting. Improved strains of the major millets of the Presidency, viz., cholam and ragi, have been evolved and valuable work has also been done on other millets.

The chemical section continued its investigations into the usefulness of different kinds of manure. Considerable progress has been made in the manufacture of compost. It has been found that under local conditions nitrate of soda used as a manure for paddy, either by itself or in combination with organic manure, has an injurious effect on the quality of the soil and despite an increased yield, is not as profitable as either green or cattle manure. The results of research that has been going on for several years on calcium cyanamide were compiled and published during

the year. To be in a position to advise the ryots about the relative merits of the different fertilizers in the market, Government have opened a subsidised manurial experimental station at Marteru, where experiments will be conducted for a period of five years with different manures supplied by collaborating firms which will also provide the cultivation expenses, the Government on their part supplying the expert staff and supervision.

As in previous years, a large number of demonstration plots were arranged. The department participated in both the Health Exhibition and the Fair at the Peoples Park, Madras, during the Christmas Week. Numerous exhibitions were held in various parts of the Presidency in connexion with co-operative conferences, fairs and festivals. Ryots have learnt the advantages of using improved strains of various crops evolved by the department. As it has been found difficult to meet the growing demand for seed supply, co-operative societies for the purpose have been formed in respect of cotton and paddy.

Veterinary

14. There was a further expansion of the activities of the Civil Veterinary department during the year. Nine new Government veterinary institutions were opened and five new circles were formed with headquarters at Rajahmundry, Nellore, Madanapalle, Trichinopoly and Calicut. Temporary vacancies in the Madras Veterinary Service were filled by promotions from the subordinate service. The strength of the cadre of Veterinary Assistant Surgeons was increased from 249 to 254.

During the year there were virulent outbreaks of rinderpest in several parts of the Presidency.

The Cattle Disease Act was in force in certain districts and compulsory inoculation was insisted upon in the few cattle fairs which were kept open in spite of the prevalence of the disease. The superior efficacy of the serum-simultaneous method having been established, inoculations by this method were conducted on a large scale, the number of inoculations up to the end of October 1929 being about three times that performed during the whole of the previous year. Nine stray cases of surra were detected. Seven animals were destroyed under the Glanders and Farcy Act, the other two having died before destruction.

Papers dealing with scientific researches conducted by officers of the department were compiled and published in the form of a pamphlet. Investigations into the causes for several animal diseases and for abortions in certain agricultural farms were in progress during the year at the Madras Veterinary College. The laboratory attached to the College continued to produce rinderpest virus for distribution to the staff of the department. The usual six months post-graduate class held at the College was attended by seven Veterinary Assistant Surgeons, including one from the Federated Malay States.

Fisheries

15. A comprehensive report was submitted by the Committee appointed to examine the activities of the department and report on the future policy to be adopted for its work and development, and the recommendations of the Committee are under the consideration of Government.

Pearl oysters disappeared from the banks off Tinnevelly and Rāmnād coasts. It was noticed that spat falls were scarce in spite of the presence of a large number of adult and mature oysters for

about six years at a stretch and the discovery of any adverse causes that might be at work is proposed to be undertaken at the Krusadai Biological Station. Arrangements were made for the systematic inspection of the banks to search for spat falls and during the year 45 of them lying between Cape Comorin and Tuticorin were inspected. The absence of any pearl fishery during the year led to concentrated work on the chank beds, which yielded unprecedented results. The departmental survey and investigation of the chank beds off the Tanjore Coast sanctioned by Government, commenced in July.

Experiments in the fish farms on the breeding of mullets, etroplus, catla and gourami were continued, excellent results being obtained by the introduction of catla and etroplus in the Vellore Fort Moat. The trawler "Lady Goschen" was engaged in the exploration and survey of fishing grounds on the West Coast and off Cape Comorin. Much work was done in collecting information relating to food fisheries off the Madras Coast, in connexion with the proposed publication of a bulletin on important marketable fishes. Preliminary investigation in the Pamban area has brought to light the existence of a large sardine fishery in Palk Bay.

The operations in the fish-curing yards on the West Coast were adversely affected by a poor fishing season. Economic distress caused by the scarcity of fish also hampered the progress of co-operation among the fishermen in Malabar, but there was considerable expansion in the socio-economic work on the East Coast. Important fisheries in the Cauvery were leased to fishermen societies during the year. Two new societies were formed in the Kurnool district.

16. The present area of State forests is 18,914 square miles, of which an extent of 3,421 square miles is under panchayat management. As a result of the handing over of all ryots' forests to panchayat management, a number of divisions and ranges have been abolished and proposals for the reduction of the cadres of foresters and forest guards have been submitted to Government. **Forests**

The preparation of working plans, by the special branch in the case of the more important areas and by local officers in respect of others, is making good progress. Collection of data in Someshwar in South Kanara and new Amarampalam in Malabar, has been completed.

The study of the regeneration of the evergreen forests was complicated by the fact that such forests occur on steep hill slopes subject to heavy rainfall and cannot therefore be worked intensively. But experiments in the method of light selection fellings of mature and over-mature trees, followed by restocking of the gaps with valuable species, promised successful results both from the sylvicultural and the financial points of view. Natural regeneration in the deciduous forests was, on the whole, fair. The attempts made to augment natural regeneration of coppice in the Walayar forests and some forests in Lower Gōdāvari have proved definitely successful.

The experiments which have been going on for some time in the exploitation of the evergreen areas and in the use of saw mills managed by Government have shown clearly that works of the kind are not profitable. The Chenat Nair concern, including the Olavakode Saw Mill, and the Saw Mill in South Coimbatore have therefore been closed. Proposals for the utilization of the Eta

reed in the Papanasam forest and for the leasing of bamboo forests in Upper Gōdāvari for paper and pulp manufacture are under the consideration of Government.

Industries.

17. An important branch of the activities of the department is in the sphere of industrial education. Three new Government Industrial schools at Bellary, Calicut and Mangalore were opened in July 1929. Instruction is provided in motor driving and maintenance at Mangalore and Calicut and in blacksmithy and cabinet making at Calicut and Bellary, while classes in a mechanic's course of five years' duration and in wood working are held at Mangalore. The diplomas in mechanical and electrical engineering awarded at the Madras Trades School have been recognized as equivalent to those at the Victoria Jubilee Technical Institute, Bombay, for purposes of appointments. Twelve scholarships for students from the mufassal, tenable for four years, were instituted at the School during the year. A notable change in the system of apprentice training was the conversion of the evening classes for engineering branches into full-day classes on the well known "Sandwich System", which has effected a considerable saving in time and money to the apprentices and is much appreciated both by the pupils and by the employers. Three separate classes in painting, clay modelling and advance drawing were formed in the Fine Arts section of the School of Arts and Crafts, Madras. The Leather Trades Institute, Madras, ceased to function as a teaching centre, but continued to give advice and assistance to tanners and to carry on research for the benefit of the tanning industry. Five bulletins and leaflets were published during the year. The chemical

laboratory and the extension buildings of the Institute were transferred to the Government Textile Institute, which continued to provide two courses of instruction, one for supervisors and the other for artisans. Four State Technical scholarships were awarded during the year and there are at present ten scholarship-holders in the United Kingdom prosecuting their studies in different technical subjects. Eleven scholarships tenable at Bangalore, Bombay, Benares and Dhanbad were also awarded during the year, besides the usual sixty scholarships at various recognized industrial schools.

An order for a special lavender soap received from His Excellency Lord Willingdon, Governor-General of Canada, testifies to the high quality of the products of the Kerala Soap Institute, Calicut. The demand for some of the standard brands increased as a result of the visit of the Superintendent of the Institute to the chief consuming centres. A number of experiments of industrial importance were carried out, including the extraction of "Ben oil" from the seed of drumstick, which is reported to be very useful for lubricating delicate machinery. The assets connected with the commercial manufacture of inks in the Government Industrial Institute, Madras, were transferred to a private firm and arrangements have been made for the supply of improved machinery for the manufacture of printers' ink under departmental agency.

As regards the engineering section, a new division, with headquarters at Bellary, was formed during the year. The survey of underground water-supply in the Bellary firka has shown that the sub-soil conditions in several villages are more

or less uniform and it has been decided to terminate the operations as soon as borings have been made in the selected areas. The boring tools manufactured by the Industrial Engineering Workshop have gained a reputation for strength, cheapness and efficiency and several orders were received from private contractors, District Boards, Railways and His Exalted Highness the Nizam's Government. Thirty applications for loans for the installation of pumping plants were received and a sum of Rs. 61,000 was sanctioned for disbursement. Owing to the persistence of the fungus disease in the mulberry plantation at Coonoor a new farm at Mathigiri in the Salem district was opened during the year.

The preliminary reports of the Special Officer for the survey of cottage industries on the districts surveyed in the latter half of 1928 and the final report for the Presidency as a whole were published during the year. In accordance with a resolution passed by the Legislative Council, Government have appointed a committee of five members, besides the Director of Industries as Chairman, to examine the Special Officer's report and submit proposals for the effective organization of such of those industries as appear to deserve encouragement and to offer scope for development.

Labour

18. Although a number of strikes occurred in various parts of the Presidency during the year, none of them was of a serious nature. By far the most important was the one in the Chittivalsa Jute Mills early in the year which involved about 2,000 men, lasted for nearly two months and was brought to an end as a result of negotiations conducted by a union of the strikers. Considerable unrest prevailed among the men in the textile mills at Choolai.

There were five strikes varying in duration from one to thirteen days during the year, the chief demands of the strikers being an increase in wages, the grant of privilege leave, the reinstatement of dismissed hands and the like. Two of the strikes were settled by the intervention of the Labour Commissioner, in one of which he was assisted by an expert committee appointed in consultation with the management and union representatives. Several points were still in dispute at the close of the year and negotiations were going on between the management and the Madras Labour Union.

Dissatisfaction of the workmen with the remuneration offered by the management for working two looms instead of one led to a strike in the Mall Mills and in the Spinning and Weaving Mills, Coimbatore. The men were given certain concessions in the rate of wages for work on each of the looms and the strike came to a close after having lasted for about 20 days. All the employees in the Tiruvottiyur Tannery struck work for five days and induced the management to grant them presents on the occasion of the Ayudha Puja festival at the rates given in the previous year. Two short strikes in the workshops at Ranipet and in the Madras Harbour were unsuccessful and one on the Achur Tea Estate in Malabar was amicably settled by the intervention of the local Sub-Inspector of Police.

The Trade Disputes Act came into force on the 8th May 1929, but it was not found necessary to utilize the machinery provided for the settlement of any trade dispute.

Three Trade Unions were registered under the Indian Trades Union Act. Considerable difficulty was experienced in obtaining the prescribed returns

from some of the registered unions. The influence of outsiders on the activities of registered unions appears to be waning and the workers are learning to rely more upon themselves.

A Bill for the amendment of the Workmen's Compensation Act was passed into law during the year and the Act has been made applicable to certain additional classes of workmen. The Act is becoming more widely known and in a large number of cases, the employers themselves are taking the initiative in complying with its provisions.

The Factories Act was administered successfully, particular attention being paid to sanitation, the employment of children and the arrangements for the safety of the employees. The revised notifications granting exemptions from the provisions of the Act regarding hours of work, weekly holiday, etc., came into force during the year and sixty-five factories were permitted by the Commissioner of Labour to avail themselves of the exemptions in respect of specified numbers of employees.

The strict application of the Indian Emigration Act and Rules during the last six years has had a deterrent effect on improper methods of recruitment by kanganies. The passing of the Ceylon Minimum Wage Ordinance does not seem to have had the effect of increasing the flow of labour to Ceylon. Emigration to Malaya increased mainly due to the greater demand for labour there consequent on the withdrawal of the restriction on the output of rubber. There was a considerable fall in the number of emigrants repatriated from South Africa under the scheme of Assisted Emigration. About seventy per cent of the repatriates have settled down as agriculturists or as domestic servants and many others have been employed in

Government service. But it was found difficult to get suitable employment for those who were engaged in industrial concerns in South Africa. A home was opened in Madras for housing disabled repatriates who have no relations in India.

The special operations of the Labour department for the amelioration of the condition of the depressed classes were extended to Kurnool, Coimbatore and Tinnevelly districts and a regular labour staff was appointed in Malabar. The activities proceeded on the usual lines, those worthy of special mention being the grant of fifty residential scholarships to students reading in Forms III to VI and in College classes and the opening of the Slater Hostel at Perambur, for the benefit of members of the depressed classes receiving industrial education or serving as apprentices in industrial concerns in the city.

Steady progress was made in the reclamation of Kallars in Madura, Rāmnād and Tanjore districts. A mechanical training centre was started at Theni during the year to train Kallars in gang coolie work and sixteen individuals trained there have already secured employment in the railway.

There was no change in the management of settlements. Owing to the insufficiency of remunerative labour for the inmates of the Kavali Reformatory Settlement, about one hundred of them were transferred to Sembiem, which was made a regular settlement under section 16 of the Criminal Tribes Act in October 1929. The settlers find employment in the Madras and Southern Mahratta Railway Remodelling Works at Perambur.

19. The transfer of all the important roads in the Agency tracts to the Public Works Department

Public Works

and the need for devoting greater attention to the Gōdāvari Delta necessitated the formation of an additional circle, which was sanctioned temporarily for a period of two years with headquarters at Dowlaishweram. A new division for the Ganjām Agency was also constituted temporarily for the improvement of roads and for the construction of bridges and culverts. A Superintending Engineer and an Executive Engineer were employed during the first half of the year in preparing the case for Madras in connexion with the Mysore-Madras Cauvery arbitration. As it was considered essential to have a full-timed staff for the training of candidates for the posts of health officer and health and sanitary inspector, the permanent appointment of a Deputy Sanitary Engineer was sanctioned for the purpose. The South Presidency Division was made permanent and the workshops at Bezwada were separated from the headquarters subdivision and placed in charge of a special officer. In addition special divisions were formed temporarily for the investigation of (1) the extension of irrigation under the Kistna Delta, (2) the remodelling and resluicing of rivers and channels in the Cauvery Delta, (3) extension of irrigation in the Salem district under the Mettur Reservoir and (4) the irrigation schemes in the Trichinopoly district.

The revised estimate amounting to Rs. 737 lakhs for the Cauvery-Mettur Project was sanctioned by the Secretary of State in June 1929. The broad gauge connexion from Salem was opened and all cement and other consignments have since been coming direct to Mettur Dam Station. The works were hampered by an unexpected flood in April and heavy rainfall in September,

but satisfactory progress was made in the erection of the crushers on the two banks and in the construction of the Ellis Saddle surplus regulator and bridge. The erection of the special concrete placing towers was, however, slower than anticipated. About 80 per cent of the excavations for the foundations of the dam has been completed, and 2·61 lakhs of tons of concrete and masonry were laid during the year. Present indications point to savings on the estimated provision for the whole project.

The works in connexion with the Glen Morgan Project were completed and the supply of power to the Ootacamund Municipality and the local camp commenced in November 1929. As regards the Pykara Project, the Railway Board decided that no electrification of the main lines could be taken up for the present and a restricted scheme, excluding the railway demand, was sanctioned by the Secretary of State in September. Construction plant, equipment and distribution materials have been ordered and supply of power from Pykara is expected to commence towards the end of 1932. The investigation of the Kolab scheme in the Vizagapatam district is nearing completion, while the reconnaissance survey of the Periyar lake has disclosed the possibility of the waters being utilized for the generation of electric power.

Finance

20. The year 1927–28 closed with a surplus of Rs. 201·73 lakhs. The closing balance of the Revenue account was Rs. 400·59 lakhs. The budget estimate for the year 1928–29 anticipated a deficit of Rs. 8·3 lakhs in the Revenue account; but the actual transactions of the year showed a surplus of Rs. 139·15 lakhs. This was mainly the result of increased receipts under "Excise" and

" Forest " and an expenditure under many heads less than that anticipated, notably " Civil Works," " Public Health " (grants to local bodies for water-supply and drainage schemes) and " Irrigation." There was, however, slight increased expenditure under " Education " due mainly to the contribution of a sum of Rs. 27 lakhs to the Annamalai University. Although the departments did not utilize their allotments to the extent provided in the budget, the total expenditure in 1928–29 exceeded that of the previous year by Rs. 115·83 lakhs. The bulk of this increase occurred under " Education," " Medical," " Civil Works " and " General Administration." The closing balance of the Revenue account for 1928–29 amounted to Rs. 539·74 lakhs.

The budget for 1929–30 provided for a deficit of Rs. 14·91 lakhs, but the preliminary revised estimates indicate that the year will actually close with a surplus of about Rs. 91 lakhs.

Excise

21. The outstanding feature of the year was the constitution of a special Government organization known as the " Central Propaganda Board," with the Hon'ble the Minister for Public Health as President, to carry on propaganda throughout the Presidency, against the use of alcoholic liquors and intoxicating drugs. A sum of Rs. 4 lakhs for the purpose was provided in the Budget Estimate for 1929–30 and Committees have been formed in each district for intensive work.

The Excise Licensing Boards and the Excise Advisory Committees continued to function during the year and the Licensing Boards were authorized to determine the location of toddy shops in addition to the powers already exercised by them.

With effect from the 1st April 1929 the rate of duty on arrack was raised in six districts and the duty on ganja was enhanced from Rs. 22-8-0 to Rs. 25 per seer. The limit of private possession of arrack without a licence was reduced to four drams, wherever it had been six drams previously, and the limit for ganja, from four to three tolas almost throughout the Presidency.

The experiment of closing arrack shops in toddy-drinking areas was continued in five taluks and was extended to the Paramakudi taluk of the Rāmnād district from the 1st April 1929. Prohibition of the sale of liquor, except on medical certificate, to members of the hill tribes in the Nilgiris was also continued. An interesting experiment is the sale *en bloc* of the arrack shops in each of the three municipalities in the Vizagapatam district with a rationed supply of arrack to each shop.

Consumption of arrack in the first nine months of the year increased. There was an increase in the total excise revenue due mainly to the higher rentals realized.

Births and deaths

22. The birth-rate during the year was practically the same as in 1928 (36·6 per mille), while the death-rate was 23·5 per mille, which is a decrease of nearly three per mille as compared with 1928. Mortality from cholera was about a third of that of the previous year. The statistical study of maternal mortality, which was started in 1928 in five of the principal cities in the Presidency, was extended during the year and a preliminary report on the results of the investigation was read before the Indian Science Congress held in Madras at the beginning of the year.

Public health

23. The second-class health officer at Mangalore was replaced by a first-class health officer

and the sanitation officer at Rameswaram by a second-class health officer. Second-class health officers were newly appointed in two municipalities and a first-class health officer added to the reserve maintained at headquarters. The subordinate staff in the Gudem Agency for anti-malarial operations was reorganized during the year with satisfactory results. The B.S.Sc. degree of the Madras University was made the minimum qualification for all future appointments as first-class health officers and various changes were made in the examinations for sanitary inspectors with a view to increase their efficiency.

The work of the rural sanitation campaign was extended to three more districts and vigorous educative work on the dangers of soil pollution and the harmful effects of hookworm infection was carried on with the aid of films, lantern slides, microscopic demonstrations and by the distribution of bulletins and pamphlets in English and vernaculars. As a result several local bodies have adopted permanent preventive measures by the construction of suitable latrines.

The retention for one more year of the temporary special staff for the investigation of malaria was sanctioned and investigations were conducted in three municipalities, eight unions and the rural areas of two taluks. Anti-malarial operations were in progress in various parts of the Presidency and quinine was distributed free in ten taluks, the expenditure being met by Government.

Cholera was very severe in seven districts during the first quarter of the year and the usual winter epidemic broke out again in three of them in November. Besides adopting necessary

preventive measures and arrying out anti-cholera inoculations, 24,000 doses of bili-vaccine were supplied to local bodies, free of cost, in the southern districts.

The rat-flea survey of the Presidency under the auspices of the Indian Research Association is nearing completion.

The Madras Prevention of Adulteration Act, 1918, was extended to the City of Madras and 12 municipalities in respect of all kinds of food and the rules prescribing the standards of purity for tea under the Act were confirmed.

There was a steady expansion in the activities of the propaganda section. Several leaflets were issued on the subject of nutrition. Two films, one on maternity and child-welfare and the other on venereal diseases, are under preparation. The leading position which this Presidency has secured in the Health Week movement was maintained by the celebrations of 1929.

Medical relief

24. In pursuance of the policy of developing important local fund and municipal medical institutions as up-to-date centres of medical and surgical treatment, twelve such institutions at taluk headquarters were taken over by Government from 1st May 1929. Four Government dispensaries in the Agency which were originally sanctioned on a temporary basis were made permanent. Two temporary Government dispensaries and the opening of the Police hospital at Vizianagram were sanctioned during the year. There are now 393 rural dispensaries and their working has been so successful that eight of them were converted into regular dispensaries. As the subsidies hitherto paid to medical practitioners and midwives in rural dispensaries were too small

to attract suitable candidates, the amounts were raised to Rs. 500 a year for licensed medical Practitioners and to Rs. 300 a year for qualified midwives. The clerical staff in the Presidency State Hospitals at Madras and in the District Medical Officers' offices was strengthened and arrangements were made to increase their pay and prospects.

The grant allotted by the British Empire Leprosy Association to the Madras Provincial Committee for leprosy relief was hitherto being distributed to various medical institutions and leper asylums for the purchase of drugs and appliances. As this was considered to be an inadequate means of dealing with the problem, the entire grant was earmarked for the appointment of a Leprosy Propaganda Officer to tour through the Presidency and to suggest in co-operation with local officers effective methods of combating the disease. The Leprosy Survey Party deputed by the Indian Research Fund Association carried on investigations in South Arcot, East Gōdāvari and Ganjām districts. Many lepers are now being treated in the leper clinics opened by the Party in East Gōdāvari and South Arcot and their work has had the effect of rousing the enthusiasm of certain other District Boards for the appointment of leprosy experts in their respective districts.

The specialist in venereal diseases has been doing good work in co-operation with the Madras Branch of the Social Hygiene Council in impressing upon the general public the advantages of proper treatment. He has also been permitted to visit important hospitals in the mufassal to help and advise local men and arrange publicity meetings. Fourteen beds for males and twenty beds for females have been provided in the special venereal department at the Government General

Hospital, Madras, and an out-patient treatment centre has been opened at the Government Hospital for Women and Children. As an experimental measure the fee for a Wassermann reaction test undertaken at the King Institute, Guindy, in respect of cases sent by the medical practitioners in the Madras City was reduced from Rs. 32 to Rs. 5.

Government have sanctioned the introduction of the scheme of appointing honorary medical officers to all hospitals at district and taluk headquarters and several such officers were appointed during the year. Three junior officers of the Indian Medical Service were reverted to the Military department. Two new posts were thrown open to officers of the Madras Medical Service. A Professor of Pharmacology at the Medical College, Vizagapatam, and a Research Officer and a Chemist for the Pharmacological department at the Medical College, Madras, were appointed. The appointment of a wholetime Police Surgeon of the rank of Civil Surgeon, who will be an officer of the Police Force but subject to the direction and control of the Surgeon-General in professional matters, was also sanctioned. A competitive examination for the recruitment of Assistant Surgeons was held during the year. Thirty-nine candidates were selected by the Selection Board for appointments as Lady Sub-Assistant Surgeons, and many of them have been posted. A medical officer was sent to Europe to study the latest developments in medical therapeutics and eleven officers were granted study leave out of India. Ten officers were deputed to undergo training in leprosy at Calcutta. Several Civil Assistant Surgeons and

Sub-Assistant Surgeons were also posted for training in special subjects during the year.

Owing to the introduction of a pre-registration course of six months in inorganic chemistry, physics and biology, the course for the M.B., B.S. degree has been lengthened to five and a half years. To encourage poor and deserving students, a system of free studentships in the Medical Colleges at Madras and Vizagapatam was instituted for the benefit of candidates not belonging to the backward and depressed classes, in addition to the existing studentships reserved for students of these communities. The Commission appointed by the Syndicate of the Madras University inspected the Medical College, Madras, in January 1929.

The report of the Committee appointed in November 1928 to examine the question of the future of medical education in the Presidency is under the consideration of Government. Certain changes were introduced in the training of nurses on the recommendation of a Committee appointed for the purpose and the syllabus prescribed by the General Nursing Council of England and Wales was adopted in a modified form. Special libraries were provided for the use of nurses in the hospitals which are used as training centres for pupils. To improve the training given to nurses in the General Hospital, Madras, Government have sanctioned the appointment of a lady tutor recruited in England.

Education

25. The important features of the year were the provision of increased facilities for elementary and various kinds of special education and the stress laid on physical training. An additional Deputy Director was appointed to deal with

matters relating to elementary and adult education. In pursuance of the policy adopted for the expansion of girls' education, the opening of 477 Board elementary schools for girls, including 61 specially intended for Muhammadans, was sanctioned and poor girls reading in Indian and European schools were exempted from payment of fees up to Form III. Sanction was accorded for the opening of 107 elementary schools for Muhammadan boys and for the entertainment of over 700 additional teachers in Board elementary schools for boys and for girls. Sixteen additional elementary schools in the Agency for the benefit of hill tribes, eight new adult education classes and a number of training classes for masters and mistresses in various centres were also opened during the year. A College of Indian Music was started in Chidambaram under the management of Raja Sir Annamalai Chettiyar.

The Physical Education Committee for girls' schools submitted its report during the year. Provision for physical training was made one of the conditions of recognition and aid for all secondary schools and each school was required to open a games fund. Seven graduates were deputed for training in the Y.M.C.A. School of Physical Education with a view to employing them as physical directors in Government colleges.

The District Secondary Education Boards were reconstituted and Government passed orders on some of the recommendations of the Secondary Education Reorganization Committee. Syllabuses in the various subjects of the Secondary School-leaving Certificate course were revised and provision was made for the teaching of music in Government girls' schools.

The Annamalai University commenced its activities. With reference to the report of the Madras University Inspection Commission the Senate decided that there was no need for any additional Universities within the area under the jurisdiction of the Madras University. Increased stress was laid on the study of vernaculars. Fees in Government Arts Colleges, except the Muhammadan College, the Queen Mary's College and the Ceded Districts College were enhanced.

Among the administrative changes of the year were the abolition of the post of Agency Educational Officer and the bifurcation for Educational purposes of the Malabar district. Two new Inspectresses of Schools were appointed. A selection grade of five per cent was sanctioned for the collegiate branch of the Subordinate Educational Service and the two cadres of Deputy Inspectors and School Assistants were amalgamated.

PART II

THE REPORT

CHAPTER I

PHYSICAL AND POLITICAL GEOGRAPHY

PHYSICAL

PHYSICAL FEATURES OF THE COUNTRY, AREA, CLIMATE AND CHIEF STAPLES

1. *Vide* pages 1 to 11 of the Report on the administration of the Madras Presidency for the year 1921–22.

POLITICAL

HISTORICAL SUMMARY

2. *Vide* pages 12 to 40 of the Report on the administration of the Madras Presidency for the year 1921–22.

FORM OF ADMINISTRATION

3. *Vide* pages 41 to 63 of the Report on the administration of the Madras Presidency for the year 1921–22 and pages 1 to 2 of the Report for the year 1925–26.

CHARACTER OF LAND TENURES

4. *Vide* pages 64 to 70 of the Report on the administration of the Madras Presidency for the year 1921–22.

SYSTEM OF SURVEY

5. *Vide* pages 71 to 83 of the Report on the administration of the Madras Presidency for the year 1921–22.

SYSTEM OF SETTLEMENTS

6. *Vide* pages 84 to 99 of the Report on the administration of the Madras Presidency for the year 1921–22.

CIVIL DIVISIONS OF THE BRITISH TERRITORY

7. *Vide* pages 100 to 116 of the Report on the administration of the Madras Presidency for the year 1921–22 and page 3 of the Report for the year 1925–26.

DETAILS OF THE CENSUS OF 1921—TRIBES AND LANGUAGES

8. *Vide* pages 117 to 120 of the Report on the administration of the Madras Presidency for the year 1921–22.

CHANGES IN THE ADMINISTRATION (1928–29)

9. His Excellency the Right Hon'ble George Joachim Goschen, Viscount Goschen of Hawkhurst, G.C.I.E., C.B.E., V.D., continued to hold office throughout the year.

M.R.Ry. Diwan Bahadur Mannath Krishnan Nayar Avargal was appointed by His Majesty to

be a Member of the Executive Council and he assumed charge of his office on the afternoon of the 25th April 1928. Mr. A. Y. G. Campbell, C.S.I., C.I.E., C.B.E., V.D., I.C.S., vacated his office as Temporary Member of Council with effect from the afternoon of the same date.

HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR'S TOURS

10. During the year 1928–29, His Excellency the Right Hon'ble Viscount Goschen, G.C.S.I., G.C.I.E., C.B.E., V.D., Governor of Madras, made the following tours :—

On the 9th July 1928, on his way to the Ceded Districts, His Excellency accompanied by Viscountess Goschen stopped at Coimbatore to attend the exhibition organized by the Agricultural Department and to open the 17th session of the Agricultural Conference. From the 11th to the 17th July he toured in the Ceded Districts of Bellary, Kurnool and Anantapur and received addresses from the three district boards and the Municipal Councils of Bellary, Adōni, Kurnool, Anantapur and Hindupur. From Hagari, where he opened the District Board bridge, he proceeded to Bellary. At Bellary he presented to the Municipal Council the All-Empire Challenge Shield for the best organized Health and Baby Week in the British Empire awarded in 1927 by the National Health and Baby Week Council, London. He inspected the well-boring at Bisalahalli and opened the water-works tank. At Kurnool he inspected the sites of the district officials' quarters, and at Anantapur he opened the science block of the Ceded Districts College and inspected the Pennār causeway work. He returned to Ootacamund on the 18th July after laying the foundation stone of the electric power-house at Hindupur.

Coimbatore

Bellary, Kurnool and Anantapur

His Excellency visited Madras in August 1928 to preside at the Annual Convocation of the University of Madras and again in September in connexion with a meeting of the Legislative Council.

Malabar

On the 8th October His Excellency and Viscountess Goschen went to the South Wynaad to see the operations of the Forest department there. His Excellency visited Mango Range Tea Estate in order to enquire into the complaints of the planters relating to the resurvey and also Arrapetta, Chundale, Vayittiri, Chedleth and Talapoya. At Chedleth he inspected the teak forest and the saw mill and heard the representations of the planters concerning resettlement, roads and communications and medical relief. He then proceeded to Cannanore and reached Madras on the 12th October after inspecting the Malabar Special Police Camp at Angadipuram and opening the Agricultural Station at Pattambi.

Tanjore

From the 29th to 31st October His Excellency made a tour in the Tanjore district visiting Tanjore, Kumbakōnam and Māyavaram and receiving addresses from the municipal councils of those places and of Tiruvārūr and from the Tanjore District Board. He laid the foundation stones of the new municipal meeting halls at Tanjore and Kumbakōnam and the foundation stone of the new Taluk Board office at Kumbakōnam.

Kistna

On the 15th November His Excellency presided at the Annual Convocation of the Andhra University at Bezwada.

His Excellency spent a few days at Ootacamund during Christmas week and returned to Madras on the 31st December.

Malabar (Laccadive Islands)

In January 1929 His Excellency visited the Malabar group of the Laccadive Islands (Androth and Minicoy) from Calicut, on board H.M.S. "Effingham." Afterwards he made a tour in the

Trichinopoly

Trichinopoly district and received addresses from the Trichinopoly District Board and the Municipal Councils of Trichinopoly, Karur and Srīrangam. At Trichinopoly he presented colours to the S.I.R. Battalion and opened the Cauvery bridge. He also performed the opening ceremony of the chord line from Golden Rock to Villupuram and travelled to Madras on the newly opened line.

Vizagapatam

In February 1929 His Excellency went to Nidadavōle to open the Nidadavōle-Narasapur railway,

and, on his way to Parlākimedi, unveiled a tablet in memory of the late Diwan Bahadur B. Narayanamurti Pantulu at Vizagapatam and opened the Bahuda bridge near Ichchāpuram on the site of the old bridge which had been destroyed during the cyclone in November 1923. At Parlākimedi His Excellency opened the railway extension from Parlākimedi to Gunupur. He returned to Madras on the 9th February and left for Ootacamund on the 28th March.

CONDITION OF THE PEOPLE

(FASLI 1338—1ST JULY 1928 TO 30TH JUNE 1929)

[*Season and Crop Report for fasli 1338; Statistical Abstract for British India—Prices and Wages in India*]

Condition of the ryot

11. The ryot in the Presidency was generally more prosperous than in the previous year. Men and cattle had a fair supply of food-grains and fodder. In the Deccan, the small ryots were able, in a large number of cases, to pay off their arrears of assessments. On the West Coast, the ryot benefited by the good yield of pepper and coconut and the continued high price of pepper. His condition in North Arcot, Salem, Coimbatore, Trichinopoly, and Tanjore was much the same as in the previous year. The extension of the area under groundnut wherever it occurred generally provided him with sufficient funds to meet his urgent needs.

The assignment of lands on a fairly large scale to members of the depressed classes has raised them in some places to the status of ryots.

Wages

Owing to the competition for labour from Ceylon and the Straits Settlements, the railway branch lines, the Mettur project, rice mills and cotton and groundnut factories, the demand for labour was on the increase in most places and labourers were able to get comparatively high wages. The money market continued to be tight in the year for the rural population.

POLITICAL PENSIONS (1928-29)

12. The political pensions in force on 1st April 1928 amounted to Rs. 2,32,247-13-0 and were distributed among 434 pensioners. During the year under report pensions amounting to Rs. 6,856-12-0 were newly sanctioned and pensions amounting to Rs. 9,873-9-0 lapsed. Ten pensioners died during the year and one pension was commuted. Twenty new pensioners were added to the list. The pensions on 1st April 1929 amounted to Rs. 2,29,231 and were distributed among 443 persons. Payments made to the Carnatic stipendiaries and the Tanjore family amounted to Rs. 1,75,638-2-7 and Rs. 17,616-14-0 respectively. The above amounts include Rs. 289 on account of the commutation of a Carnatic pension.

CHAPTER II

ADMINISTRATION OF THE LAND

SOURCES AND REALIZATION OF LAND REVENUE

(FASLI 1337—1ST JULY 1927 TO 30TH JUNE 1928)

[*Report on the settlement of Land Revenue for fasli 1337; Statistical Abstract for British India—Land Revenue*]

Sources of land revenue

13. The land revenue of the Presidency is derived from the undermentioned sources :—

(*a*) peshkash or revenue from permanently settled estates,

(*b*) shrotriyam jodi or quit-rent levied on inam villages,

(*c*) assessment including water-rate on lands held under the ryotwari system, and

(*d*) miscellaneous revenue.

The demand payable under these various sources for this fasli and for the preceding fasli is shown below :—

—	Fasli 1336.	Fasli 1337.	Increase or decrease.
	RS.	RS.	RS.
Peshkash	50,09,030	49,91,267	– 17,763
Cesses	21,72,563	21,57,906	– 14,657
Quit-rent	7,57,136	7,53,335	– 3,801
Cesses	5,82,563	5,83,899	1,336
Ryotwari and miscellaneous.	6,71,87,228	6,80,10,535	8,23,307
Cesses	70,28,658	71,18,751	90,093
Total ...	8,27,37,178	8,36,15,693	8,78,515

Collections

14. The total current demand under Land Revenue and Cesses during the fasli was Rs. 8,42,15,596. A sum of Rs. 8,36,80,406 or 99·36 per cent was

collected within the fasli as compared with 97·35 per cent in the previous fasli. A sum of Rs. 16,758 was written off the accounts. The total arrear demand under all the heads amounted to Rs. 22,38,902. A sum of Rs. 16,81,680 or 75·11 per cent was collected as against 90·72 per cent in the previous fasli and a sum of Rs. 43,782 or 1·96 per cent written off the accounts. The decrease in the percentage of collections is due to the postponement of the collection of large amounts, especially in the Bellary, Guntūr and Anantapur districts.

Coercive processes

15. The following statement shows the number of processes of each kind issued during the year as compared with the figures for the three preceding faslis :—

Coercive processes.	Faslis			
	1334.	1335.	1336.	1337.
Demand notices ...	740,795	732,621	962,789	848,981
Distraint or attachment notices	95,118	94,211	73,072	77,395
Sale notices ...	84,456	76,194	59,184	55,447
Sales (number of defaulters)	7,912	6,330	5,850	5,354
Total ...	928,281	909,356	1,100,895	987,177

The number of demand notices issued during the fasli was less by 113,808 than in the previous fasli. These notices have been issued only when absolutely necessary. There was a slight increase in the number of distraint or attachment notices issued but they were fewer than in faslis 1334 and 1335. The increase was large in South Arcot, North Arcot and Nellore. This was due to the fact that the season was unfavourable for two consecutive faslis in some taluks of South Arcot, and to the closer attention paid to collection work in the other districts. The percentage of distraint and attachment to demand notices was higher than in the preceding fasli but lower than in faslis 1334 and 1335. Out of 95,848 defaulters whose property was attached, 42·14 per cent paid up the arrears before sale notices were issued, a considerable improvement over the figure (17·38) of the previous fasli. The number of defaulters whose

property was sold was less than in fasli 1336, the decrease being in sales of both real and personal property. Immovable property of the estimated value of Rs. 4,78,415 was sold for the recovery of arrears amounting to Rs. 1,21,550. The value of land sold was noticeably disproportionate to the arrears in seven districts. The price realized on land sold to private individuals amounted on the average to five times the assessment in the case of dry lands and a little more than three times in the case of wet lands. The extent of land sold to private individuals was 11,752·51 acres under dry and 5,973·72 acres under wet cultivation. The total area bought in by Government for want of bidders was 7,467·84 acres of dry land and 2,288·56 acres of wet land.

Charges

16. With effect from the 1st April 1928 the charges relating to inspecting tahsildars and clerks working as revenue inspectors are also shown under "22. R. E. General Administration—District Administration." The total administrative charges, excluding village establishments, amounted to Rs. 107·34 lakhs and the village service charges to Rs. 119·18 lakhs. The total charges were therefore Rs. 226·52 lakhs or 26·54 per cent of the land revenue and cesses collected. But it must be noticed that the village establishment is the servant of all departments of Government and that magisterial work occupies a considerable portion of the time of the Collector and his subordinates.

Ryotwari holdings

The total extent of ryotwari holdings during the fasli was 27·20 million acres, exceeding that of the previous fasli by 123,583 acres. All districts except Mettur, East Gōdāvari, Chingleput and Tanjore contributed to the increase. The decrease in Mettur was due to the acquisition of lands for the Cauvery-Mettur project. The decrease in the other districts was too small to call for any special remarks.

Assessment

The total assessment on holdings was Rs. 569·08 lakhs as against Rs. 566·61 lakhs in the previous fasli. All districts except East Gōdāvari, Tanjore and Mettur contributed to the increase. The decrease in East Gōdāvari was due to the fact that an extent of nearly 1,200 acres was left out of settlement under orders of the High Court. The

acquisition of lands for the Cauvery-Mettur project accounts for the decrease in Mettur.

Cultivation

The total area cultivated in ryotwari holdings was 20·58 million acres as compared with 20·14 million acres in the previous fasli. There was a net increase of 354,385 acres under dry and 82,469 acres under wet cultivation. The increase under dry was marked in six districts and that under wet in four districts. These increases were due to the favourable character of the season. For the same reason the total area cultivated including that under miscellaneous cultivation rose from 21·29 million acres to 21·71 million acres.

Water-rate and second crop charge

The revenue derived from these sources amounted to Rs. 29·96 lakhs as against Rs. 29·87 lakhs in the previous fasli.

Remission.

The total amount remitted during the fasli was Rs. 26,39,520 or Rs. 7,92,766 less than in the previous fasli. The decrease occurred under most heads and amounted to Rs. 7,87,158 under seasonal remissions. This was due to the more favourable character of the season and a more adequate supply of water in the irrigation sources. The amount remitted under the head "Injury by floods," however, increased from Rs. 11,500 to Rs. 14,786.

Miscellaneous revenue

Miscellaneous revenue amounted to Rs. 107·64 lakhs as against Rs. 109·71 lakhs in the previous fasli. The decrease occurred mainly under the heads "Enhanced water-rate on lands irregularly irrigated," "Revenue derived from tree-tax," "Charges levied for occupation of poramboke land" and "Sale-proceeds of lands sold." There was, however, a marked increase of Rs. 30,283 under "Commissions of estates under Court of Wards management" due to the adjustment of the commission due from the Sivaganga estate for the previous fasli. Enhanced charges for the occupation of poramboke lands amounting to Rs. 4,02,533 were levied on an extent of 33,067 acres.

Transfers of registry

17. Transfers of revenue registration fall under the following main heads :—

(*a*) applications and notices received from sub-registrars ;

(*b*) applications and intimations received from parties, village officers and others.

Under the first head 403,940 applications were received as against 371,423 in the previous fasli. The bulk of the increase occurred in the districts of South Arcot, West Gōdāvari, North Arcot and Trichinopoly. Under the second head the number of applications received was 141,230 as against 106,601 in the previous fasli. The Tinnevelly, Malabar, Chittoor, Bellary and Salem districts mainly accounted for the increase. The total number of applications of all kinds dealt with in the fasli under review, including the number pending disposal at its beginning, was 612,830. Of these 537,484 were disposed of during the fasli, leaving a balance of 75,346 or about 12·3 per cent of the total number, as against 67,661 or 12 per cent in the previous fasli.

Loans and advances

18. The advances under the Land Improvement Loans Act during the year amounted to Rs. 12·70 lakhs, and those under the Agriculturists' Loans Act to Rs. 11·54 lakhs, making a total of Rs. 24·24 lakhs, as against Rs. 29·74 lakhs in fasli 1336. The difference was the net result of an increase in the amounts advanced in ten districts and a decrease in fifteen districts. The decrease was mainly due to the fact that loans on a liberal scale were granted in the districts of Guntūr, Bellary, and Coimbatore on account of the unfavourable character of the season, during the previous fasli. The loan granted to the Maharaja of Venkatagiri for the repair of certain tanks in his zamindari accounts for the increase in Nellore. Of the sums of Rs. 10·63 lakhs and Rs. 14·80 lakhs, repayable during the year under Land Improvement Loans Act and Agriculturists' Loans Act on account of the principal, Rs. 7·39 lakhs under the former Act and Rs. 12·20 lakhs under the latter Act were collected. Rupees 1·15 lakhs under the Land Improvement Loans Act and Rs. ·54 lakh under the Agriculturists' Loans Act were repaid by borrowers on account of loans the repayments of which had not fallen due, while sums of Rs. 3,885 and Rs. 2,417 were written off as irrecoverable under the two Acts. The aggregate amount of principal and interest repayable during the year under both the Acts including the balance remaining unpaid out of sums which fell due in

previous years was Rs. 36,64,216 of which a sum of Rs. 7,15,200 or 19·5 per cent was collected without resort to coercive measures and a sum of Rs. 18,89,821 or 51·6 per cent after issue of demand notices. A sum of Rs. 2,01,179 was collected after attachment of property but before sale, while the amounts realized by the sale of movable and immovable property were Rs. 12,673 and Rs. 67,575 respectively. A sum of Rs. 7,326 was written off as irrecoverable under both principal and interest. The balance outstanding at the end of the year was Rs. 7,70,442, the arrears being heavy in Bellary, Coimbatore and Tanjore.

Wells

Seven hundred and sixty-seven wells were newly constructed and 942 wells repaired with the aid of loans granted under the Land Improvement Loans Act as compared with 829 and 1,712 in the previous fasli. The largest number of wells constructed or repaired was in Coimbatore. The numbers in North Arcot, Salem and Madura were also large.

SURVEYS

[*Report on the administration of the Survey Department for the official year 1928–29*]

Parties

19. Five parties were at work during the year under review. They were employed principally on the resurvey of ryotwari areas. Two parties surveyed besides large extents of proprietary areas.

Operations

20. The total outturn of the survey parties was 487 square miles of initial survey, 758 square miles of resurvey, 225 square miles of revision survey and 5·2 square miles of special cadastral survey. The total outturn for the year in terms of resurvey was 1,397 square miles which compares favourably with that of 1,438 square miles in the previous year, making due allowance for the fact that an additional party was working for six months in the previous year. The main items of initial survey carried out during the year were (1) the survey of Government lands in the proprietary

villages of East and West Gōdāvari and Kistna and canal-irrigated proprietary villages of these districts, (2) the survey of the Bodokhemidi estate in the Ganjām district and (3) of the proprietary villages affected by the Cauvery-Mettur project in the Tanjore district. The chief areas in which resurveys were in progress were Salem, Malabar and South Kanara, while the revision survey was confined to parts of East and West Gōdāvari and Kistna. The special cadastral surveys carried out during the year consisted of the Tiruppur town and of small extents in the towns of Chirala and Pollachi which remained to be dealt with at the end of the previous year. In addition 49 linear miles of roads and 43 linear miles of streets in unions were surveyed during the year.

SETTLEMENTS

[*Report on the Administration of the Settlement Department for the year 1928–29*]

Parties

21. Four settlement parties were at work during the year ; party No. I in East and West Gōdāvari districts, party No. II in the Kistna district, party No. III in Anantapur and Salem districts and party No. IV in Trichinopoly, Madura, South Kanara, Malabar and the Nilgiri districts. The headquarters of party No. III were moved from Hindupur to Salem during the year.

Operations

22. Resettlement was not due in any of the districts, and no new rates were introduced during the year under report. Almost the entire work of resettlement was carried out, either in accordance with the simplified procedure ordered by Government in 1925 or a modified form thereof known as the new or revised system approved in G.O. No. 428, Revenue, dated 24th February 1928.

Details of the principal settlement operations of the year are given below :—

The resettlement conducted under the old system in the Divi and Bandar taluks had been completed in the previous year. During the year under report field inspections subsequent to the

AD-MINIS-TRATION OF THE LAND

hearing of objections to rough pattas was completed in all the seven wards of the Bandar Municipality. Orders of Government on the report on the final results of reclassification of soils in the Divi taluk were received during the year.

The simplified system was followed in the taluks of Amalapuram, Ramachendrapuram, Cocanada and Rajahmundry of East Gōdāvari district, Chintalapudi, and portions of Bhimavaram and Ellore taluks in West Gōdāvari, Gudivada, Kaikalur and Bezwada taluks of Kistna, the Ernad and Walluvanad taluks of Malabar and Kasaragod taluk, including the villages transferred from that taluk to Mangalore and Puttur, in South Kanara. The issue of rough pattas and the hearing of objections were completed in Ellore, Chintalapudi, Kaikalur and Ernad taluks and this branch of work was also carried on in some villages of Rajahmundry, Kasaragod and Puttur taluks. Field inspection subsequent to the hearing of objections was completed in Ellore, Chintalapudi, Kaikalur, Bezwada, Ernad and Walluvanad taluks, and was also carried on in some other villages in East Gōdāvari and South Kanara districts. Rough pattas were issued, objections heard and subsequent field inspection completed in 12 wards of the Bezwada Municipality. Fair accounts based on the resurvey were handed over to the Revenue department for 230 villages in East Gōdāvari, West Gōdāvari, Kistna and South Kanara districts, for 65 amsams in Ernad and 125 desams in Walluvanad of Malabar.

Resettlement operations were carried out under the new or revised method in the Peddapur taluk, and the Chodavaram, Yellavaram and Polavaram divisions of East Gōdāvari, Kovvuru and Tadepalligudem taluks in West Gōdāvari, Nandigama taluk of Kistna, Attur, Salem and Rasipur taluks of Salem and Ponnani, Palghat and Chirakkal of Malabar. Field inspection prior to the issue of rough pattas was completed in Peddapur, Chodavaram, Yellavaram, Nandigama and also several villages of the other taluks mentioned above. Considerable progress was also made in the hearing

of objections to the rough pattas and subsequent field inspection.

With reference to a resolution passed by the Legislative Council, a committee of seven of its members was appointed to make an enquiry into the economic condition of the districts of East Gōdāvari, West Gōdāvari and Kistna in connexion with the ensuing resettlement of those districts and to forward a report to Government. The orders of Government on the proposals for the resettlement of the three districts, other than those relating to rates of assessment and water charge, were received during the year. Work connected with the introduction of resettlement was started and resettlement fair accounts, with columns for "Rate" and "Assessment" left blank, were prepared for 229 villages in the East and West Gōdāvari districts.

Reclassification of porambokes, including delimitation of local fund porambokes, was completed in the taluks of Amalāpuram, Rāmachandrapuram, Razole of East Gōdāvari, Narasapur, Tanuku, Bhīmavaram, Tadepalligudem of West Gōdāvari, Gudivada and Kaikalur of Kistna and in 39 villages of Bandar and Divi taluks in Kistna district. The final check of the survey records of the lands in which Government had an interest in non-Government villages was completed for 350 villages of East and West Gōdāvari and Kistna districts. Reports on the introduction of resettlement in the Nilgiri and Malabar Wynaads, the Kodaikānal taluk of the Madura district and the red soil taluks of Anantapur district and proposals for the revision of ground-rent in the towns in the red soil taluks of Anantapur district were submitted during the year. Orders of Government on the proposals for the revision of ground-rent in the towns in the red soil taluks of Bellary were received, and land registers for ground-rent cases were prepared and rough pattas issued during the year.

The collection of statistics for the scheme report was in progress in Malabar.

During the year under report four Assistant Collectors were trained in survey and settlement and in the maintenance of records and registration. Resettlement registers for 376 villages were prepared for printing in Settlement Party offices and registers for 499 villages were printed and despatched during the year.

Work under Estates Land Act

The work relating to the record of rights and settlement of rents under the Estates Land Act was carried out by a special revenue officer in the Ganjām and Vizagapatam districts, and by the officers of the Settlement Department or by Revenue Divisional Officers in the districts of West Gōdāvari, Kistna, Trichinopoly and Madura.

Revenue Records and Registration

[*Report of the Board of Revenue for the year 1928–29*]

23. Closer supervision by Inspecting Tahsildars has already effected an all-round improvement in the maintenance work of the subordinates. Greater promptness has been shown in the payment to karnams of their share of the subdivision fees.

Training

24. Schools for the training of revenue subordinates in survey were held in 12 districts and one at Ootacamund for training in the use of the circumferentor and traverse computation. Fifty-six schools, conducted by revenue inspectors under the supervision of the Inspecting Tahsildars, for the training of karnams in survey were held in all the districts except Madras and Rāmnād. As in the previous year advantage was taken of the schools to reduce arrears in stone maintenance.

Maintenance

25. Regular maintenance was in progress throughout the ryotwari tracts in the Presidency except in portions of eight districts. Some of the excepted tracts have been reserved for resurvey, while in others resurvey or revision survey operations are in progress or have just been completed.

Sub-divisions

The number of subdivisions sanctioned during the year was 96,379 as against 103,742 in the

previous year. 62,612 subdivisions were effected on the application of ryots; a sum of Rs. 1,09,378-12-1 was collected by way of subdivision fees and Rs. 35,319 paid to the karnams for the work of subdivision.

Survey marks

There has been an increase in the number of stones requiring renewal or repair at the end of the year, but it is satisfactory to note that the ryots' outturn amounting to 274,921, as against 233,472 in 1927-28, is the highest on record since 1923-24. Ryots still continued to be indifferent to the maintenance of survey marks in some districts but it is reported that in others they are taking greater interest in the work.

Special operations

Scattered surveys were done in various districts by special revenue subordinates under the supervision of Inspecting Tahsildars.

Great trigonometrical stations

26. The condition of the great trigonometrical stations and bench marks is generally satisfactory and necessary action was taken in respect of those that were in need of repairs.

WASTE LANDS

(FASLI 1338—1ST JULY 1928 TO 30TH JUNE 1929)

[*Season and Crop Report for the year 1928-29*]

27. The total area of the Presidency for which details were available was 91·166 million acres of which a net extent of 34·068 million acres were under cultivation as against 33·793 million acres in the preceding fasli. The area classed as forest rose from 13·054 million acres to 13·101 million acres, while 19·750 million acres (or 0·721 million acres less than in the previous fasli) were not available for cultivation. Of the remainder, 10·901 million acres were fallow and 13·346 million acres formed culturable waste other than fallow as against 10·086 million acres and 13·271 million acres in the previous fasli.

GOVERNMENT ESTATES

28. There is nothing to record under this head for the Presidency.

WARDS' ESTATES

(FASLI 1337—1ST JULY 1927 TO 30TH JUNE 1928)

[*Report on the administration of the estates under the Court of Wards in the Madras Presidency for fasli 1337 (1927-28)*]

Estates under management

29. At the end of fasli 1336 there were 18 estates under the management of the Court of Wards. Two of these, the Zamorin's estate and Madugula, were handed over to their proprietors during the fasli and one, Marungapuri in the Trichinopoly district, was taken under management, thus bringing the total number of estates under the Court's control at the end of the fasli to 17, including Uttumalai which still continued under formal superintendence.

Estates handed over

The Zamorin's estate was under the Court's control for twelve years. During the Court's regime the system of keeping accounts prescribed in the Court of Wards Manual was introduced. The estate is now equipped with land registers, sketches of holdings, documents of title and an up-to-date rent-roll, and suitable accommodation for the deposit of records has also been provided. The investigation into the estate's title to lands registered in the name of the Zamorin and the preparation of land and special registers brought the extent of holdings from 30,966 acres at the time of assumption to 39,615 acres at restoration. During the Court's management the current demand of the estate rose from Rs. 67,728 and 120,740 paras of paddy to Rs. 74,908 and 183,277 paras. A sum of Rs. 1,81,110 was spent on irrigation works and other improvements and about Rs. 2 lakhs on the construction of a palace for the Zamorin. Debts amounting to Rs. 2,10,228 were repaid and debts aggregating Rs. 29,650 due to the estate were recovered.

The Madugula estate was under the Court's management for over thirteen years. During the Court's regime cultivation accounts were introduced and some villages were purchased for Rs. 36,930 out of the surplus income of the estate. The current demand rose from Rs. 65,228 in fasli 1324 to

Rs. 1,08,673 in fasli 1337. A sum of Rs. 76,744 was spent on irrigation works and other improvements. Debts amounting to Rs. 42,463 were paid off and debts recovered amounted to Rs. 58,216.

Cultivation and holdings

The percentage of the actual extent cultivated to the holdings was 74·66 in the fasli against 73·86 in fasli 1336. The percentage was over 75 per cent in twelve estates and below that figure in the other five. The low percentage in four of these five estates is due to unfavourable conditions of the season

Finance

Demand, collection and balance

30. The gross demand of all the estates excluding Uttumalai, amounted to Rs. 29·69 lakhs and the net demand (after deducting remissions) to Rs. 28·73 lakhs. Out of the 15 estates that were under management during both the faslis 1336 and 1337, the demand increased in 9 and decreased in 6, giving a net increase of Rs. 4·76 lakhs. The bulk of the increase occurred in Sivaganga, South Valluru, part I, Arni and Poravipalaiyam. In Sivaganga the season was normal except in three taluks and the remissions granted in fasli 1337 were therefore much smaller than in the previous fasli. The increase in South Valluru, part I, was due to the inclusion of mesne profits, etc., claimed in suits filed by the estate for the cancellation of alienations and for the removal of encroachments. A favourable season accounted for the increase in Arni, and enhanced rentals realized by the leases of homefarm lands for that in Poravipalaiyam. Bodokhemidi and Madugula showed some decrease. Of the net current demand of Rs. 28·73 lakhs, Rs. 18·32 lakhs were collected leaving a balance of Rs. 10·41 lakhs. Excluding subsequent collections and remissions recommended after the close of the fasli, the net recoverable balance on 1st October 1928 amounted to Rs. 8·69 lakhs or 30·24 per cent of the demand. There was no balance in Ramapatnam and Ilayarasanendal, part I. The balance was less than 6 per cent in six estates and exceeded 25 per cent in Sivaganga and Marungapuri. The arrear demand at the beginning of the fasli was Rs. 14·69 lakhs of which Rs. 8·67 lakhs were outstanding at its close. There were no arrears in Kudupalli and Ilayarasanendal, part I.

The balances were insignificant in Ramapatnam and Kadambur. The arrears were below Rs. 1,000 in three estates, below Rs. 5,000 in two others and below Rs. 10,000 in Shulagiri and Poravipalaiyam. They exceeded Rs. 10,000 in the remaining six estates. The aggregate revised cash balance at the beginning of the fasli was Rs. 4·82 lakhs. The total cash receipts amounted to Rs. 34·98 lakhs bringing the total cash assets of the fasli to Rs. 39·80 lakhs. Deducting the expenditure of Rs. 35·54 lakhs, the cash balance at the close of the fasli was Rs. 4·26 lakhs. The aggregate closing balance to the credit of the estates at the end of the fasli was Rs. 13·02 lakhs, including Government promissory-notes and other securities, fixed deposits and the estimated value of grain on hand. The ordinary receipts and charges of the fasli were Rs. 24·51 lakhs and Rs. 21·22 lakhs respectively. In three estates, Bodokhemidi, Jeypore Kumarika's estate and South Valluru, part I, the closing balances exceeded one lakh of rupees. Portions of the surplus balances in Bodokhemidi and Jeypore Kumarika's estate were invested in Government securities.

Agricultural improvements

Bodokhemidi is the only estate in which there is an agricultural farm. The yield of paddy in the demonstration farm at Digapahandi in the estate was better than that on similar lands cultivated by the neighbouring ryots in the ordinary way. Sugarcane cultivation was a failure as the soil was unsuitable and the substitution of ragi has been suggested. In the other estates there was little or no scope for the introduction of improved methods of agriculture and most of the pannai lands were leased out. It is proposed to bring the pannai lands in some villages of the Marungapuri estate under homefarm cultivation in 1930.

Establishment charges

The average percentage of the establishment charges and the Government commission to the normal receipts in the fasli was 20·4 against 20·7 in fasli 1336. The maximum limit of 20 per cent prescribed for surveyed areas and 25 per cent for other estates was appreciably exceeded only in

Madugula and Sivaganga. The further increase in Madugula was due to the fall in the ordinary receipts. The percentage in Sivaganga was less than that in the previous fasli in spite of the payment in the fasli of the arrear Government commission due for fasli 1336.

Maramat works

31. Works according to settled programmes were carried out in Ramapatnam, Arni, Madugula, Bodokhemidi and South Valluru, part I. A maramat programme for Marungapuri, newly taken under management, has been called for. A restricted programme was followed in Sivaganga on account of the financial stringency. The total maramat allotment in all the estates including the trust institutions was Rs. 3·22 lakhs and the value of work done and work paid for amounted to Rs. 2·72 lakhs and Rs. 2·66 lakhs respectively or 84·3 and 82·4 per cent of the allotment. The maramat expenditure of Rs. 2·66 lakhs in the fasli was only 10·2 per cent of the total ordinary charges including those of trust institutions.

Debts

Debts due to the estates.

32. The debts due to the several estates including Marungapuri newly taken over, amounted to Rs. 13·37 lakhs at the beginning of the fasli. Adding the loans newly granted, the debts newly brought to account and the interest and costs that accrued during the fasli, the aggregate amount due was Rs. 14·36 lakhs of which Rs. 1·35 lakhs were collected and written off, leaving a balance of Rs. 13·01 lakhs at its close. The outstanding balance was large in the Jeypore Kumarika's estate, South Valluru, part I, Kurupam, Marungapuri, Poravipalaiyam and Kudapalli.

Debts due by the estates

Excluding the Zamorin's estate handed over early in the fasli and including Marungapuri newly taken over, the liabilities of the estates amounted to Rs. 25·55 lakhs at the beginning of the fasli. The debts newly contracted and those brought to account during the fasli amounted to Rs. ·38 lakh and Rs. 2·51 lakhs respectively. The total liabilities including interest and costs that accrued during the fasli amounted to Rs. 30·92 lakhs. Of this amount Rs. 6·40 lakhs were repaid and Rs. ·24 lakh struck off in the fasli leaving a

AD-MINIS-TRATION OF THE LAND

balance of Rs. 24·28 lakhs. The outstanding debts exceeded Rs. 50,000 in five estates.

Encumbered estates

The provisions of section 45 of the Courts of Wards Act continued to be in force in the estates of South Valluru, part I, Arni, Bagalur, Shulagiri and Kurupam. The total liabilities of South Valluru, part I, amounted to Rs. 8·66 lakhs including debts newly brought to account and interest. Some of the claims are pending in civil courts and hence no scheme for the liquidation of the debts was framed and no repayments made in the fasli. The total liabilities of Arni amounted to Rs. 3·68 lakhs of which Rs. 18,836 were foregone in consideration of preferential payment, leaving Rs. 2·80 lakhs outstanding at the end of the fasli. The only creditor of Bagalur was traced and has presented a petition for repayment of the debt. The question of payment of the outstanding claim against the Shulagiri estate is under correspondence. The total debts payable by Kurupam amounted to Rs. 5·04 lakhs of which about Rs. 93,000 were paid off and Rs. 2,000 struck off during the fasli leaving a balance of Rs. 4·09 lakhs at its close.

Education of wards

33. The wards of school-going age attended local schools and colleges as before. Their educational progress was mostly satisfactory and their health and conduct good.

Institutions attached to estates

34. The administration of the trust institutions in Bodokhemidi, Kurupam, Kudapalli, Marungapuri and Sivaganga was satisfactory and their financial condition generally sound except that of the Sivaganga Devasthanam.

Religious and charitable

Educational

The Raja continued to manage the high school and the girls' school in Sivaganga under the general control of the Estate Collector. Both institutions worked at a loss during this fasli also. The high school results at the public examination were good. Ādi-Drāvida and other backward class pupils were admitted into the high school during the fasli and the admission of girls was discontinued. The scout troupe was well run and the school's record in games and sports continued to be good.

The working of the middle school and the elementary schools, one for boys and the other for girls, maintained by Bodokhemidi, continued to be satisfactory. New buildings for both the elementary schools were under construction.

Field survey work

35. The completion of survey was notified and survey records received from the Survey Party for all the villages in Sivaganga. Taluk maps for the seven taluks as reconstituted were under preparation. The introduction of commutation in all the taluks was completed in the fasli. The survey of Ramapatnam has been declared final and the final report has been received. Boundary survey was almost completed in Bodokhemidi and field survey was in progress. The survey and settlement of the only unsurveyed village in South Valluru, part I, was completed during the fasli but no official report had been received.

Estate forests

36. The forests in Sivaganga, Arni, Madugula and Shulagiri continued to be worked under the rules sanctioned by Government under sections 26 and 32 of the Madras Forest Act. The provisions of section 26 of the Act have been in force in the forests in Marungapuri since 1917. The administration of the forests in Sivaganga continued under the supervision of the Raja, subject to the general control of the Estate Collector. There was a slight decrease in the income from forests in Arni. The executive control of the forests in Madugula vested in the District Forest Officer, Vizagapatam. The rules under section 26 of the Act which were in force during the time of the late Zamindar were continued in the forests of Kurupam, and the forest revenue increased considerably after the Court's assumption of the management of the estate, as a result of the leasing of the minor forest produce to contractors. The Agent to the Governor, Ganjām, assumed control of the forests in the Agency portion of the Bodokhemidi estate during the fasli, the forests in the plains being managed departmentally.

Inam alienations

37. The enquiry into inams and other alienations was completed in all the villages of Bodokhemidi except Turuburai, the alienation

statement for which was received after the close of the fasli. Resumption of the inams was given effect to in all the villages of the estate except 26. Two revenue inspectors sanctioned to expedite the work of issuing pattas for resumed inams were entertained only after the close of the fasli. Their progress was slow as ex-inamdars generally refused to accept pattas.

Other estates

38. The Cochin portion of Ramapatnam continued under the Cochin Darbar's management. The total receipts of the year, including the opening balance, amounted to Rs. 23,068 and the total charges to Rs. 14,371. A sum of Rs. 15,640 was withdrawn from the British portion of the estate to pay off the debts due to the Cochin Devaswam.

REVENUE AND RENT-PAYING CLASSES

(FASLI 1337—1ST JULY 1927 TO 30TH JUNE 1928)

[*Report on the settlement of Land Revenue for fasli 1337; Report on the working of the Madras Estates Land Act, 1908, during fasli 1337*]

Revenue-paying classes

39. The principal revenue-paying classes of the Presidency are zamindars, inamdars and ryotwari holders. The last class contributed the major portion of land revenue collected during the year.

The ryotwari system of land tenure implies a settlement between the Government and the individual cultivator. The practice of sub-letting has long been prevalent and continued during the year under report. It is practised chiefly by absentee pattadars, by those engaged in professions other than agriculture, capitalists and by large landholders.

Rent-paying classes

40. By rent-paying classes are generally meant tenants of zamindaris and whole inam villages. During the year under report no general tendency was observed on the part of tenants to sell their land to non-cultivating classes except in the Devakottai division where they have become indebted to Nattukottai Chettis.

As compared with the previous fasli there was an appreciable decrease in the total number of suits and of applications instituted under the Estates Land Act. Few or no suits or applications were filed during the fasli in the districts of Cuddapah, Anantapur, Bellary and Kurnool. There was an increase in the number of suits in eight districts and a decrease in ten while the number of applications showed an increase in seven districts and a decrease in eleven districts.

CHAPTER III

PROTECTION

LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY

41. *Vide* pages 140 to 143 of the Report on the administration of the Madras Presidency for the year 1921–22.

COURSE OF LEGISLATION (1928–29)

Legislation

42. During the year, notice was given for the introduction of 22 new Bills, nine of which were official. The following Bills received the assent of H.E. the Governor-General during the year and became law :—

(i) The Indian Fisheries Act (Amendment) Bill (No. 11 of 1927) introduced in the Council on the 19th October 1927, received the assent of H.E. the Governor-General on the 27th November 1928 and became Act II of 1929.

(ii) The Jaina Succession Bill (No. 17 of 1927) introduced in the Council on the 20th October 1927, received the assent of H.E. the Governor-General on the 14th February 1929 and became Act III of 1929.

(iii) The Madras State Aid to Industries Act (Amendment) Bill (No. 2 of 1928) introduced in the Council on the 8th September 1928, received the assent of H.E. the Governor-General on the 27th November 1928 and became Act VIII of 1928.

(iv) The Annamalai University Bill (No. 9 of 1928) introduced in the Council on the 8th September 1928, received the assent of H.E. the Governor-General on the 11th December 1928 and became Act I of 1929.

Motion to introduce the Madras City Municipal Act (Amendment) Bill (No. 13 of 1928) was lost on the 10th October 1928.

Among the Bills that were pending before the Legislative Council at the close of the year or have since become law, the following may be mentioned :—

Official.—(i) The Madras University Act (Amendment) Bill (No. 24 of 1927) was introduced in the Council on the 2nd November 1927 and passed by the Council on 31st January 1929.

(ii) The Madras Civil Courts Act (Amendment) Bill (No. 18 of 1928) was introduced in the Council on the 30th January 1929 and referred to a Select Committee. The report of the Select Committee has not yet been presented to the Council.

(iii) The Madras City Police Act (Amendment) Bill (No. 4 of 1929) was introduced in the Council on 31st January 1929 and referred to a Select Committee.

(iv) The Madras Services Commission Bill (No. 5 of 1929) was introduced in the Council on the 31st January 1929 and referred to a Select Committee.

(v) The Madras Port Trust Act (Amendment) Bill (No. 7 of 1929) was introduced in the Council on the 11th March 1929 and was passed by the Council on the same date.

(vi) The Madras Medical Registration Act (Amendment) Bill (No. 8 of 1929) was introduced in the Council on the 11th March 1929 and was passed by the Council on the same date.

Non-official.—(i) Out of the several Bills to amend the Andhra University Act, 1925, pending before the Legislative Council at the close of the year 1927-28, four Bills have been passed by the Council at the meetings held in January-February 1929.

(ii) The Madras District Municipalities Act, the Local Boards Act, and the General Clauses Act (Amendment) Bill (No. 5 of 1928) of Mr. J. A. Saldanha was introduced in the Council on the 27th March 1928 and was referred to a Select Committee on the 5th September 1928.

(iii) The Madras Abkari Act (Amendment) Bill (No. 11 of 1928) of Mr. J. A. Saldanha was introduced in the Council on the 5th September 1928 and referred to a Select Committee on the 10th October 1928.

(iv) The Madras Hindu Religious Endowments Act (Amendment) Bill (No. 12 of 1928) of Dr. (Mrs.) S. Muthulakshmi Reddi was introduced in the Council on the 5th September 1928 and was passed by the Council on the 1st February 1929.

(v) The Madras Local Boards Act (Amendment) Bill (No. 15 of 1928) of Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed was introduced in the Council on the 5th September 1928.

(vi) A Bill for the suppression of brothels and immoral traffic (No. 16 of 1928) of Mr. K. R. Venkatarama Ayyar was introduced in the Council on the 5th September 1928 and referred to a Select Committee on the 12th October 1928. The presentation of the Select Committee's report on the Bill is awaited.

(vii) The Madras District Municipalities Act (Amendment) Bill (No. 17 of 1928) of Mr. A. Kaleswara Rao was introduced in the Council on the 10th October 1928 and is under consideration by a Select Committee.

(viii) The Mirzapuram and Pedagonnur Impartible Estates Bill (No. 19 of 1928) of Mr. B. Ramachandra Reddi was introduced in the Council on the 27th November 1928 and was passed by the Council on the 26th March 1929.

(ix) The Ellamarru and Penjendra Impartible Estates Bill (No. 20 of 1928) of Diwan Bahadur S. Kumaraswami Reddiyar was introduced in the Council on the 27th November 1928 and was passed by the Council on the 26th March 1929.

Changes in the Council

43. There were ten by-elections to the Legislative Council during the course of the year, five caused by the resignation of elected members, three by their acceptance of office and two by death. Special members were nominated to the Council for the consideration of the Annamalai University, the suppression of brothels and immoral traffic and the Madras City Police Act (Amendment) Bills. Council Secretaries to the Hon'ble the Ministers were appointed in August 1928.

POLICE (1928)

[*Report on the administration of the Police of the Madras Presidency for the year 1928; Statistical Abstract for British India—Police*]

General

44. Apart from the strike on the South Indian Railway, the year was an uneventful one. The most noticeable features of the police work of 1928 are a marked decrease in crime and a fairly general improvement in detection. The year's figures for crime are the lowest since the introduction of the police reforms which followed the Police Commission Report in 1902–03. The improvement in detection is due to the more efficient and intelligent maintenance of the station crime history and concentration on habitual as distinct from casual offenders, the more prompt dissemination of information regarding crime and criminals and the grant of more liberal rewards not only to the police but also to the public and to village officers. The district detective staff sanctioned temporarily for certain districts has been of great use in investigating organized crime and preparing a history of criminal organizations. The extension of the system to other districts is under consideration. There has been a distinct improvement in traffic control in Madras City. During the year a beginning was made in transfers of sub-inspectors between the city and mufassal. Such transfers are expected to improve the general quality of the police administration by making it possible for men to work in the conditions for which they are most suitable.

Strength

45. The sanctioned strength of the permanent force, exclusive of the Malabar Special Police on 31st December 1928 was 27,888 or 151 more than the corresponding figure of the previous year. The increase was chiefly due to the additions made to the strength of certain districts including the Trichinopoly Railway Police district during reorganization.

Recruitment

46. There was no difficulty in recruitment. Preference was given to English-knowing men and members of the depressed classes. The type

of ex-military men who applied for enlistment during the year was generally unsuitable.

Casualties

47. Casualties in the permanent force numbered 1,727 against 1,535 in the previous year.

Health

48. The number of deaths rose from 297 to 314, but the percentage on the actual strength of the force remained the same. The percentage of admission to hospitals was 129·2 and the daily sick rate 3·4.

Education

49. There were four probationary Assistant District Superintendents of Police and one Deputy Superintendent of Police under training in the Provincial Police Training School, Vellore, at the close of the year. One probationary Assistant District Superintendent of Police and one Deputy Superintendent of Police, who were under training at the beginning of the year, were posted to districts in April for practical training. Six probationary inspectors and 74 probationary sub-inspectors passed out in October after the final examination. Ninety probationary sub-inspectors and two probationary inspectors joined the school during the year. The standard of education of the probationary inspectors and sub-inspectors is higher than in previous years, many of the probationers being graduates.

The following statement gives the particulars regarding the admission and training of recruits in the three Central Recruits' Schools :—

Name of school.	Number of recruits on 1st Jan. 1928.	Number received during the year.	Number of recruits sent out to districts for training.	Number of casualties.	Number on the rolls at the end of the year.
Central Recruits' School, Vellore.	177	477*	235	156	262
Central Recruits' School, Anantapur	218	526	369	96	279
Central Recruits' School, Coimbatore	141	508	337	56	256

* Includes one recruit from Salem who wasisent back without training as he did not know Tamil.

Discipline

Punishments and dismissals

50. There was a rise in the percentage of punishments for absence without leave from 2·4 in 1927 to 2·6 in the year under review, while that for offences other than absence without leave fell from 6 to 5·5. The number of dismissals during the year was 231 against 178 in the previous year. One inspector was dismissed for misconduct and another for inefficient investigation. One sub-inspector was dismissed for extorting a confession in a murder case and another for misappropriation of Government money.

Conviction of police officers

The number of police officers convicted by the criminal courts rose from 44 to 68. Forty-six officers were convicted for offences committed in their official capacity and the remaining 22 for those committed in their private capacity. The convictions under the Police Act and under section 223 of the Indian Penal Code during the year numbered 5 and 32, respectively.

Rewards

The King's Police Medal was awarded to one District Superintendent of Police for capturing a notorious freebooter and his associates who had defied the police for several years. Four officers received Indian titles. A sum of Rs. 56,978 was distributed among 7,167 police officers for good work as against Rs. 42,551 among 5,973 officers in 1927. The number of police officers rewarded by promotion was two as against five in the previous year. Rewards were also granted on a liberal scale to village officers, private individuals and some members of criminal tribes for valuable co-operation with the police.

Accommodation

51. The number of police officers below the rank of inspectors for whom quarters existed at the end of the year was 96 sergeants, 462 sub-inspectors, 1,969 head constables and 14,702 constables, the percentage on the sanctioned strength being 63·6, 32, 63·4 and 64·6, respectively.

Armed reserves

52. The armed reserves were maintained as usual in a state of efficiency. Train guards were furnished from among the reserve men on all the passenger trains on the South Indian Railway during the strike period from July to September. An additional armed reserve was formed at Rajahmundry during the year.

Special police

53. The Malabar Special Police was called out for duty outside Malabar twice during the year; first in connexion with the arrival of the Statutory Commission and afterwards during the South Indian Railway strike. It proved a useful reserve to the district police.

Village police

54. There was no noticeable improvement in the usefulness of village officers, but that more and more are coming to realize the importance of rendering active and timely help to the police is clear from the fact that during the year 741 village officers including talaiyaris were granted rewards amounting to Rs. 7,569 as against 642 officers and Rs. 5,659 in the previous year. On the other hand 627 village officers and 105 talaiyaris were punished at the instance of the police, the corresponding figures for the previous year being 597 and 160, respectively.

Crime

55. The season was favourable and there was a good demand for labour everywhere. Prices of foodgrains fell slightly and there was a corresponding fall in the volume of grave crime.

Cognizable crime

The number of true cases of cognizable crime under the Indian Penal Code other than nuisances, fell from 48,183 to 46,297, there being a decrease in 20 districts. Offences under special and local laws rose from 17,412 to 17,836 and nuisances from 109,895 to 114,721.

Offences against person and property

Serious offences against person and property numbered 17,514 against 18,236 in the previous year. The proportion was highest in Madras City and Madura.

Grave crime

There was a decrease in the number of grave crimes from 31,580 in 1927 to 29,287 in the year under review. The decrease occurred in all classes of grave crime except murder, while the number of murders only increased by one from 967 in 1927 to 968 in the year under review. Crime in the Ceded Districts showed a decrease of about 17 per cent and the improvement is attributed to more efficient work under the Criminal Tribes Act. The number of dacoities decreased from 268 in 1927 to 202 in 1928. Cases of robbery, house-breaking, theft and cattle-theft also decreased by 11 per cent, 11·3 per

cent, 4·8 per cent and 10 per cent, respectively. There was no case of mail robbery during the year.

Counterfeiting coins and currency notes

True cases of offences against coinage and currency notes numbered 20 and 58 respectively as against 30 and 61 in the previous year. The seizure in Cocanada of currency notes forged in Burma led to seizures in Rangoon and prevented wider circulation. A notorious Muhammadan at Quilon in the Travancore State was found to be responsible for passing forged hundred-rupee currency notes in the Coimbatore district. Eight of his associates were sentenced to various terms of imprisonment.

Social and communal movements

There was a dispute about the right to perform the "chindu" dance at Kotakandukuru village in Kurnool district between the Kapus, Madigas and Gollas on one side and Malas and Balijas on the other. Both parties were proceeded against under section 107, Criminal Procedure Code, but before the disposal of the case a free fight between the parties ensued and four men were killed.

Hindu-Muslim tension continued in Salem town and in Murarbadu village of South Arcot district. Timely interference by the police and the magistracy prevented disturbances.

Disturbances

When the Statutory Commission landed in Bombay on the 3rd February 1928 a hartal was proclaimed in Madras, and the incidents arising therefrom threatened to develop into a serious disturbance. The police were forced to open fire, as a result of which one man was killed and three wounded and military aid had to be invoked. The trouble, however, speedily subsided and normal conditions were restored.

During a temple ceremony in Attangudi, Rāmnād district, a rush on the part of the mob resulted in a Marava being trodden on and killed. The excitement turned into a demonstration against the police and an attack on the constables on duty. One constable in his flight fell into the temple tank, where the mob stoned him to death. Twenty-one persons concerned in this riot were convicted.

The long-threatened trouble on the South Indian Railway came to a head during the year, when a general strike was proclaimed and sabotage and intimidation were freely resorted to by the strikers and their associates. Elaborate police measures had to be taken and the situation was brought under control in a comparatively short space of time.

Detection and prevention of crime

Detection showed a general improvement in the Presidency as a whole. The proportion of cases under the Indian Penal Code other than nuisances that ended in conviction was 36·8 as against 35·9 in the previous year, the improvement being most noticeable in cases of murder. One thousand one hundred and forty-nine persons were bound over to be of good behaviour. Of these 302 belonged to the police category of known depredators, 474 were petty thieves and 14 were receivers of stolen property. The number of persons sent to jail for failure to furnish the required security was 809. Of the total of 42,142 cases reported to the police (excluding offences against religion, public and local nuisances, offences under special and local laws declared cognizable and offences under the Criminal Tribes Act) investigation was refused in 5,163 cases. A freer use of section 157 (*b*) of the Criminal Procedure Code has given more time to the police to deal with more serious crimes committed by habitual criminals.

False cases

The number of cases struck off as wilfully and maliciously false was 3,050 as against 3,701 in the previous year. Out of 155,924 cases prosecuted by the police, 49 were declared false after enquiry or trial.

Escapes

The number of persons who escaped from police custody during the year was 115 as against 91 in the previous year. Of these 99 were recaptured including one who had escaped in the previous year.

Criminal Investigation Department

56. The South Indian Railway strike and the cases resulting therefrom occupied a good deal of the time of the Special Branch staff. In addition to political work the Criminal Investigation Department dealt with cases of inter-provincial swindling, defalcations of public money and note

forgery. A beginning was made in the preparation of complete accounts of all the wandering criminal gangs by a census of the Thottia Naiks.

Shorthand Bureau

The results of the examinations held periodically to test the efficiency of the sub-inspectors were satisfactory.

Finger-print Bureau

The year started with 185,991 slips and during the year 17,116 slips were received. 7,413 slips were eliminated under the rules, leaving 195,694 on record on the last day of the year. The Bureau dealt with 18,947 references (13,430 from this Presidency and 5,517 from outside) for the identification of unknown persons. Of these 4,806 were identified.

Madras City Police

57. Excluding gazetted officers, the sanctioned strength of the permanent force on the last day of the year was 2,037 or six less than the figure for the previous year. Recruitment continued to be easy and the type of recruits secured was satisfactory. Rewards amounting to Rs. 4,788 were granted to 481 officers and men of the City Police and Rs. 1,367 to private individuals. Five officers and men were recipients of rewards offered by private individuals. The armed reserve has been trained for the first time in dealing with mobs and the armed guard at Government House, which replaced the military guard, was specially complimented by His Excellency the Governor for its smartness.

Crime

The total number of cases of cognizable crime under the Indian Penal Code excluding nuisances was 2,738 as against 2,520 in 1927. There was a recrudescence of thefts in European bungalows during the second half of the year. The system of night rounds was reorganized and the number of arrests of nocturnal prowlers and burglars by roundsmen increased considerably.

Traffic control

The traffic division had been entrusted with far more work than it could effectively handle and arrears of cases and investigations had accumulated. During the year the primary responsibility for traffic control was restored to the divisional police, the attention of the small traffic case staff being mainly confined to work in the more

serious and intricate traffic cases. With a view to avoid unnecessary court work for the department and to relieve owners and others from prosecution for merely technical offences, warnings were substituted for prosecution in cases which involved merely technical breaches of the rules or law. The number of offences under the Motor Vehicles Act taken up for investigation during the year was only 2,737 as against 4,509 in 1927. Measures were adopted for the better regulation of bus and other traffic on the road. That these measures have been attended by a marked degree of success is shown by the fall in the number of accidents in Madras from 434 in 1927 to 269 in 1928, in spite of an increase of 35 per cent in the number of vehicles licensed.

Intelligence Department

In spite of the heavy work the small Intelligence Department staff performed their duties efficiently during the year.

Railway Police

58. The jurisdiction of the Madras Police district increased by 75½ miles and that of the Trichinopoly Railway district by 173·24 miles owing to the opening of new lines. In spite of the increase, the number of thefts decreased from 1,679 in 1927 to 1,339 in the year under review. There were 24 attempts to derail trains as against 8 in the previous year, the increase being mainly due to the strike on the South Indian Railway. The number of persons run over by trains and killed during the year was 305 as compared with 329 in the previous year.

Port Police

59. The Port Police establishments at Cuddalore and Cocanada were maintained throughout the year.

Cost

60. The total cost of the department for the year 1928–29, excluding the final accounts for March 1929, was Rs. 1,58,19,404 as against Rs. 1,56,57,220 for the previous year.

CRIMINAL JUSTICE (1928)

[*Statistics of Criminal Courts in the Madras Presidency for the year 1928; Statistical Abstract for British India—Criminal Justice*]

61. On the 31st December 1928, there were in the Presidency the following criminal courts:—

The High Court, 29 sessions courts (including 3 for the Agency tracts), 1 additional sessions judge, 26 district magistrates' courts, 4 additional district magistrates' courts, 4 presidency magistrates' courts, 91 subdivisional magistrates' courts, 33 courts of assistant and deputy magistrates without divisional charges, 501 subordinate magistrates (including 200 tahsildar-magistrates' courts); 203 benches of magistrates (consisting of 1,500 honorary magistrates), 70 special magistrates' courts and 1 honorary magistrate's court.

In addition the subordinate judges of 15 districts exercised the powers of assistant sessions judge during the year.

62. The total number of original cases instituted in the criminal courts during the year was 305,130, an increase of 13,657 cases over the figure of the previous year. **Original cases**

The total number of cases filed in the village magistrates' courts fell from 3,921 to 3,348 and the number of persons tried by these courts from 6,759 to 5,722. Of these 13·98 per cent were convicted as against 12·53 per cent in 1927. The percentage of conviction varied markedly in different districts. In the panchayat courts 36,332 cases were filed against 36,287 in 1927 and the number of persons tried was 62,295 against 62,596 in the previous year. The percentage of conviction in this class of courts was 24·04 as against 22·50 in 1927 and the percentage varied considerably in different districts. Village courts

131,676 persons were tried by bench courts of whom 104,698 were convicted, the corresponding figures for the previous year being 121,081 and 99,101. Bench courts

The special magistrates' courts at Bodinayakkanūr and Udaiyārpālaiyam were abolished during the year and bench courts were newly constituted in their places. A third-class bench court was newly formed at Karaikudi during the last quarter of 1928.

Regular magistrates' courts

The total number of cases instituted in the regular magistrates' courts in the mufassal was 221,705 against 211,969 in 1927. The average duration of cases was 3 days before bench courts, 5 days before special magistrates' courts, 12 days before sub-magistrates' courts, 32 days before deputy magistrates' courts, 19 days before assistant magistrates and 31 days before joint magistrates. The system of fixing particular days of the week for trying police cases has been introduced in most of the districts and is reported to have worked satisfactorily except in three districts.

Presidency magistrates' courts

The total number of cases instituted in the presidency magistrates' courts during the year was 42,105 against 37,655 in 1927. Two hundred and eighty-six cases involving 485 persons were pending trial at the close of the year.

There were seven single bench magistrates of whom one resigned and one died. Three hundred and fifty cases under the Indian Penal Code and section 488, Criminal Procedure Code, and 687 cases under the City Police Act were disposed of by these courts. The work of the single bench magistrates was satisfactory and gave some relief to the stipendiary courts.

Sessions courts

The number of cases committed to sessions courts in the mufassal was 1,612. The largest number of committals were to the courts of Coimbatore, Madura and Tinnevelly. The total number of cases pending at the close of the year was 185 against 168 in 1927. Of those actually tried 50·10 per cent were acquitted and 49 per cent convicted, the corresponding figures for 1927 being 53·36 per cent and 46·08 per cent respectively. The average duration of cases disposed of by sessions courts fell from 56 days to 54 days.

The High Court

The total number of cases committed to the High Court sessions was 28 as against 20 in 1927.

One case concerning one person was pending at the close of the year. The percentage of conviction was 83·72 as against 64 in the previous year.

63. Of the persons convicted and sentenced by second and third-class, magistrates, 9,883 appealed to first-class magistrates as against 10,458 in 1927. The average time taken for the disposal of an appeal in the courts of first-class magistrates was 22 days. The percentage of successful appellants was 37·31 as compared with 34·46 in the previous year. Appeals Magistrates' courts

Of the persons convicted by first-class magistrates, 2,484 appealed to sessions courts against 2,834 in 1927. The appeals of 238 persons were pending at the close of the year against 321 in 1927. The average duration of appeals in sessions courts was 37 days as compared with 40 days in 1927. The percentage of successful appellants was 27·65 as against 27·72 in the previous year. Sessions courts

The number of appellants to the High Court was 1,067 against 1,179 in 1927. The Government appealed against acquittal in 55 cases involving 124 persons as compared with 58 persons in 1927. Of the total of 143 persons concerned in appeals against acquittals (including 19 persons whose cases were pending from the previous year), the acquittals of 61 persons were upheld, the acquittal of 38 persons was reversed and new trial ordered, the acquittal of 26 persons was set aside and a conviction recorded and 18 were pending at the close of the year. Appeals of 327 persons were rejected *in limine*. In the case of 297 persons the findings and sentences were maintained after notice, in the case of 10 persons the sentences were enhanced and in the case of 68 persons the sentences were reduced or otherwise altered. The convictions against 103 persons were reversed, new trial or further inquiry was ordered in the case of three persons and appeals of 259 persons were pending at the end of the year. The average duration of an appeal was 28 days as against 29 in the previous year. The percentage of entirely successful appeals was 12·75 as compared with 13·78 in the previous year. The High Court

64. The following table shows the number of revision petitions taken up during the year as compared with the preceding year :—

	Applications presented.		Cases taken up *suo motu* or on report from subordinate courts.	
	1927.	1928.	1927.	1928.
District Magistrates ...	866	883	30	21
Sessions Courts ...	730	767	22	28
High Court	952	913	109	176

The total number of persons under trial during the year on a charge of murder (including those referred under section 374, Criminal Procedure Code) in the Sessions courts was 1,487 and the number convicted was 555. References in the case of 171 persons sentenced to death were disposed of by the High Court under section 374, Criminal Procedure Code. In the case of 107 persons the convictions were upheld and the sentences confirmed. The sentences were commuted to transportation for life in the case of 29 persons and to rigorous imprisonment for a term of years in the case of 4 persons and 31 were acquitted. The total number of persons on whom sentence of death was passed finally by the High Court was 111 as against 86 in the previous year.

Jury system

65. One thousand and twenty-five persons were tried by jury and the verdict was approved in the case of 987 persons. In the case of 33 persons a reference was made to the High Court under section 307, Criminal Procedure Code, on the ground that the verdict was perverse. Of the cases referred to the High Court, including those pending from the previous year, the verdict of the jury was upheld in the case of 27 persons (retrial being ordered in the case of 13 persons) and a case against 2 persons was left pending at the close of the year. The jury system is reported to have worked satisfactorily on the whole.

Punishments

66. The total number of sentences passed during the year was 254,518. The following table gives the nature of the sentences.

Death	111
Transportation	196
Rigorous imprisonment	16,503
Simple imprisonment	17,442
Forfeiture of property	131
Fine	220,000
Whipping	135

The total amount of fines imposed was Rs. 12,59,287, of which a sum of Rs. 47,146 was paid to complainants as compensation under section 545, Criminal Procedure Code. It is satisfactory to note that the number of persons sentenced to imprisonment for 15 days and under has further gone down from 3,454 in 1927 to 2,975 in 1928 excluding sentences passed by village and panchayat courts, and that the number released on probation of good conduct under section 562, Criminal Procedure Code, increased from 1,684 in 1927 to 1,797 in 1928. Proceedings had to be taken against 47 offenders for failure to observe the conditions of their recognizances.

Juveniles

67. Of the 241,003 persons convicted, 1,506 were boys and 214 were girls. The number of juvenile offenders was particularly large in Salem, Madras and Guntūr. Of the total number of juvenile offenders 298 were discharged after admonition and 177 were delivered to their parents or guardians.

Miscellaneous

68. Of the 97,761 cases for disposal under the Indian Penal Code, 13,260 or 13·56 per cent were rejected under section 203, Criminal Procedure Code, as compared with 13·79 per cent in 1927. The bulk of the disposals under this section related to cases of criminal force and assault, hurt, theft, criminal trespass and criminal intimidation, insult and annoyance. It is satisfactory to note that the number of persons against whom compensation was awarded for frivolous and vexatious accusation under section 250, Criminal Procedure Code, increased from 982 in 1927 to 1,013 in the year under review. The percentage of convictions in cases tried under the Indian Penal Code was 38·49 against 40·04 in the previous year.

Amended Criminal Procedure Code

The High Court has endorsed the view of some district magistrates that the amendments to sections 256 (1) and 526 (8) of the Criminal Procedure Code are often misused and afford ample scope for vexation and delay, and that the amendment to the latter section is chiefly responsible for the large number of witnesses detained beyond three days.

PRISONS (1928)

[*Report on the administration of the Jails of the Madras Presidency, 1928; Statistical Abstract for British India—Prisons*]

General

69. The salient features of the year are a fall in the total number of prisoners, a decrease in the number of prisoners sentenced to simple imprisonment and to periods not exceeding one month, a noticeable fall in the number of jail offences and punishments, a noticeable decline in the sick and mortality rates and a decline in the total expenditure, though the cost per head showed a slight increase.

Accommodation

70. The number of central, district and special jails remained the same as at the end of the previous year, namely, 10, 5 and 1 respectively. But the number of sub-jails increased from 313 to 314 owing to the opening of a new sub-jail at Salem. The Tanjore Borstal School continued to function as such, but as there was a large number of commitments under the Borstal Schools Act it was found necessary to open a Borstal section in the district jail at Palamcottah in order to relieve overcrowding in the Tanjore school. Permanent additional accommodation is being provided in the Central Jail, Coimbatore. The question of disallowing imprisonment for debt, if it is proved to the satisfaction of the court that the judgment-debtor is unable to repay the debt, and of reducing the period of detention of judgment-debtors to three months, are still under the consideration of Government. Pending their decision no permanent additions have been made to the existing

accommodation for civil prisoners, although overcrowding of civil prisoners continues to exist in certain jails.

Prisoners of all classes

71. The year opened with 18,229 prisoners of all classes, 86,219 were received and 87,762 discharged, leaving 16,686 in confinement at the close of the year. The daily average number confined fell from 18,476 in 1927 to 17,098 in 1928. The decrease is chiefly due to the premature release of Mappilla rebellion prisoners under G.O. No. 164, Public, dated 22nd February 1928.

Convicts

At the beginning of the year there were 15,119 male and 204 female convicts. 20,227 males and 777 females were received by direct committal during the year as compared with 21,229 males and 830 females in the previous year. 24,096 convicts were received by transfer. Of those discharged during the year, 2,234 were released on appeal, 13,277 on expiry of sentences and 5,359 under the remission rules. The number of convicts released by order of Government rose from 247 to 2,105. The large increase is mainly due to the fact that 1,817 Mappillas were released under the Government Order referred to above. Eighty-two were transferred to the Andamans, 24 to the Mental Hospital, Madras, 2 escaped and remained at large, 113 were executed and 168 died. At the close of the year 13,837 remained in custody as against 15,323 in 1927. The daily average was 14,357·69 or 1,288·92 less than in the previous year.

Undertrial prisoners

There were 2,033 prisoners of this class in confinement at the beginning of the year. 36,257 were received during the year and 2,018 remained in custody pending trial at the end of the year. The daily average dropped from 2,050 to 2,025. The average period of detention before sessions courts fell from 38·13 days to 33·89 days but that before magistrates rose slightly from 15·66 to 16·38 days.

Civil prisoners

The year began with 873 civil prisoners in custody including 110 State prisoners. Four thousand eight hundred and sixty-two were admitted, 4,872 were released, 27 were transferred,

1 escaped and 4 died, leaving a population of 831 at the end of the year. The daily average fell from 780·15 to 715·29.

State prisoners

The number of State prisoners in custody on 1st January 1928 was 110 and five were admitted during the year. Of the latter, two were returned from the Andamans, two received by recommittal after detention under police surveillance and one treated as State prisoner after undergoing a sentence of six months' rigorous imprisonment. Forty-five Mappilla State prisoners were discharged from jails for detention under police surveillance, leaving 70 prisoners in custody at the end of the year.

Star class

The system of classifying prisoners as star class to protect the better class of prisoners from contaminating influences continued to work satisfactorily. It is appreciated by the prisoners and has considerably improved the moral tone and the discipline of jails.

Special division

There were no special division prisoners in custody during the year.

Habituals

There were 3,305 habitual convicts at the beginning of the year and 4,565 were admitted during the year. The habituals formed 26·22 per cent of the convict population against 20·96 per cent in the previous year. Their conduct was on the whole satisfactory and the scheme of segregating the incorrigible element of this class in the central jails at Salem and Vizagapatam worked well. The question of excluding recidivists from the scope of the remission rules is under the consideration of Government.

Youthful offenders

The number of youthful offenders under the age of 15 admitted to jails was the same as in the previous year, namely six. Of these two were released from jail custody after completing sentences of 7 days and 2 months respectively and four were transferred to certified schools. It is hoped that, as the Children Act has been extended throughout the Presidency, the practice of committing juveniles to prison will cease altogether.

Mental defectives

Eighty-one prisoners of this class were confined at the beginning of the year and 52 were admitted

during the year making a total of 133. Thirteen were transferred to the Mental Hospital, Madras, 33 were released or transferred to other jails and 3 died, leaving 84 in custody at the close of the year. Additional accommodation has been provided for this class at Cuddalore and an entire section of the jail cut off and enclosed for their use.

Lepers

Additional accommodation was provided during the year in the leper annexe at Salem and this enclosure is now self-contained and well equipped for dealing with leper prisoners. They receive up-to-date treatment and the majority of them improve in health while undergoing treatment in jail.

Religion of convicts

Of the 21,004 convicts admitted during the year, 88·53 per cent were Hindus including Sikhs, 8·06 per cent Muhammadans, 3·40 per cent Christians, and ·01 per cent Buddhists and Jains. The percentage of Hindus and Sikhs shows a slight increase over that of the previous year.

Escapes

72. There were 21 escapes during the year, as against 17 in 1927, 7 from inside and 14 from outside the jails. Of these 19 were recaptured and also 4 others who had escaped during previous years. The increase in the number of escapes is chiefly due to abuse of confidence on the part of wards under Borstal and modified Borstal training at Tanjore and Palamcottah, which institutions account for 11 of the escapes from custody.

Offences and punishments

73. Prison offences and punishments declined noticeably during the year. The total number of offences fell from 3,029 to 2,330. The total number of punishments and the percentage of punishment to average strength fell from 3,029 and 19·36 in 1927 to 2,334 and 16·26 in 1928. A welcome feature is the improvement which is apparent under offences relating to work and prohibited articles, which shows that a spirit of co-operation with the prison regime is being inculcated into the prisoners.

Education

74. Compulsory elementary education is imparted to all the prisoners under 30 years of age

and those over 30 who show a genuine desire to learn and have some chance of profiting thereby, are also permitted to attend school. In addition to the three R's instruction is given on subjects such as up-to-date agricultural methods, hygiene, industrial training, etc., and the female prisoners are trained in knitting, sewing, weaving and the like. Officers of the Educational department visited jail schools regularly and offered valuable assistance and advice. Lectures on moral and religious subjects delivered by respectable gentlemen appointed for the purpose were much appreciated by the prisoners. Of those trained in ambulance and first aid, 157 were presented with first-grade certificates and the number would have been larger but for the fact that a large number of trained prisoners were discharged before the examination. The team from Palamcottah carried off the second prize in the competition for the Jagmal Raja Labour Ambulance Challenge Shield at Gwalior and the other teams sent also did creditably. Scout-craft is a special feature of the training in the Borstal and modified Borstal schools. Benefit dramatic performances were given by the prisoners in some jails on behalf of the Discharged Prisoners' Aid Society. Magic lantern exhibitions which were freely held, not only relieved the monotony of prison life but were also of educative value.

Discharged Prisoner's Aid Society

75. Of the 14,786 prisoners discharged during the year, 2,107 sought the assistance and protection of the Discharged Prisoners' Aid Society as compared with 1,207 in the previous year. Of this number 1,396 including 433 ex-Borstal boys received assistance during the year. Six hundred and eighty-two were provided with employment and 714 got substantial help in other ways. The increasing number of prisoners coming forward to seek the assistance of the society shows that it has gained the confidence of well-disposed prisoners who are in need of help on release from jail. The Borstal Association gave pecuniary help to the extent of Rs. 278 to Borstal boys. The number of probation officers increased from 863 to 1,071. During the year new branch committees were

formed in several important centres and an additional district committee at Vizagapatam. A new feature of the society is the formation of a Muslim Prisoners' Aid Society at Bellary. Discharged prisoners' homes were brought into use at Trichinopoly, Coimbatore and Salem and a home was nearing completion at Cannanore. Excellent work was done by the society as a whole during the year, the societies deserving special mention being the central society and the branch societies at Coimbatore, Vellore, Cannanore, Bellary, Tanjore, Palamcottah, Madura and Trichinopoly. The substantial increase in the membership of the society shows that the public are also alive to its usefulness.

Remission

76. Five thousand three hundred and fifty-two convicts were released from central and district jails under the remission rules as against 5,634 in the previous year. The decrease is attributed to the non-applicability of the remission rules to the Borstal inmates from the 1st March 1927. Extra remission for continuous good conduct was awarded to 7,148 convicts and for extra tasks performed to 1,120 convicts, the corresponding figures for 1927 being 6,891 and 953 respectively.

Advisory boards

77. Eighteen Advisory Board meetings to consider the conditional release of prisoners were held in different jails during the year. Of the 310 cases considered, 120 were recommended to Government for conditional release. The Government sanctioned the release of 116, one was considered unsuitable and three were pending the decision of Government at the end of the year. Eleven of the 13 cases pending at the close of the previous year were also released, bringing the total number released under the scheme during the year to 127. The total number of Borstal inmates released during the year under the licence system, was 71.

Vital statistics and sanitation

78. In comparison with 1927 the figures for sickness and mortality show that there has been a marked improvement in the medical administration of the jails. The number of prisoners admitted into hospitals, the average daily number

of the sick and the number of deaths fell from 6,088, 275·32 and 282 to 4,391, 216·8 and 201 respectively. The death-rate per mille of average strength decreased from 15·26 to 11·76. There was only one doubtful case of cholera which resulted in death in the Borstal School, Tanjore. It is gratifying to note that this disease was kept out of jails, though it caused considerable havoc in the free community in many of the districts in which the jails are situated. There were two accidental deaths at the Central Jail, Salem. Of all the jails, the Central Jail, Salem, showed the greatest improvement in health statistics in general, although the Central Jail, Vizagapatam, returned the lowest death-rate during the year. Of the total number of prisoners discharged during the year, 75·37 per cent gained weight as compared with 74·59 in 1927. Most of the jails get their water-supply from wells all of which are protected against accidents and contamination and are periodically cleaned and hankinized. Drinking water is carefully sterilized by chlorination. The water scarcity at Koraput, which existed for about a month prior to the monsoon, was overcome by deepening the well. A good well was purchased at Salem to improve the water-supply and an excellent one acquired for the new female prison at Vellore. The latter will be linked up with the Central Jail for providing water during periods of scarcity. Numerous other improvements were effected in the water-supply, drainage, sanitation and cooking arrangements of certain jails during the year.

Jail visitors

79. The total number of visits paid by official and non-official visitors fell from 993 in 1927 to 903 in 1928. The fall is chiefly due to the smaller number of officials who visited the jails during the year. One of the members of the Statutory Commission, the President of the Borstal Association, London, paid a visit to the Borstal School, Tanjore, and was very much impressed with all that he saw there. The Director of Industries and his staff continued to give expert advice in the management of jail industries. Non-official visitors included ladies and gentlemen who delivered lectures on moral and religious subjects.

Finance

80. Excluding the outlay on jail buildings by the Public Works Department and the expenditure relating to certified schools, the total expenditure amounted to Rs. 30,50,079 against Rs. 28,28,085 in 1927. The increase is chiefly under "manufactures" as the value of inter-jail supplies was treated as "receipts" from the 1st April 1928, while it was treated as "abatement of manufactory charges" in previous years. The total expenditure and the cost per head under dietary charges, hospital charges and clothing and bedding decreased, while charges for establishment and sanitation showed an increase. Deducting the charges against manufacture, general supervision, construction and repairs, travelling allowances of gazetted establishment and some other items, the total expenditure amounted to Rs. 21,93,552 as against Rs. 23,56,483 in 1927. The value of articles manufactured during the year increased from Rs. 8,39,795 to Rs. 8,85,031, in spite of a fall in the average number of convicts employed in jail manufacture from 6,987 to 6,353. The total value of supplies made to the Police, Forest, Medical and other departments shows an increase over the previous two years. These supplies were generally regarded as satisfactory.

Borstal schools

81. The number of inmates detained in the Borstal School, Tanjore, at the beginning of the year was 590, excluding three State prisoners. Five hundred and forty-four were received during the year by direct committal and 102 by transfer. Three hundred and one were transferred, 214 were released and six died, leaving 715 at the end of the year. At Palamcottah 215 Borstal inmates were under treatment during the year and 198 at its close. Two hundred and fifty-eight adolescents were undergoing modified Borstal treatment at Palamcottah at the beginning of the year; 269 were received, 260 were released on expiry of sentence and 43 discharged either on bail or on transfer during the year, leaving 224 in detention at the end of the year.

CERTIFIED SCHOOLS

[Report on the working of the Certified Schools for the year 1928]

82. At the beginning of the year there were seven certified schools under the Madras Children Act, viz., the Senior Certified School at Chingleput, the Junior Certified School at Ranipet, the Junior Certified School at Rajahmundry and four aided private certified schools. But the number was reduced to six at the end of the year as the American Advent Mission Industrial School, Velacheri, resigned its certificate as an aided private certified school from the 8th October 1928. The Home of the Madras Children's Aid Society, already a senior certified school for girls, was certified during the year as a junior certified school for girls as well.

There were 541 pupils (510 boys and 31 girls) on the rolls at the beginning of the year. Three hundred and eighty-six (354 boys and 32 girls) were admitted during the year and 239 (228 boys and 11 girls) discharged, leaving a total of 636 boys and 52 girls at the end of the year. Of these 579 boys were detained in the three Government certified schools.

Eighty-seven boys and 15 girls were received into the Remand Home attached to the Madras Children's Aid Society.

Education of pupils

83. Every endeavour is made to give each pupil a sound elementary school knowledge and to teach him the responsibilities of citizenship. Besides this, children are given a sound vocational training in different subjects, such as smithy, weaving, metal work, tailoring, laundry, masonry, gardening and music. Physical training is given special attention and healthy outdoor games form part of each day's routine. The scout movement has made considerable progress in the three Government certified schools, and good results achieved by the training given to the boys in ambulance and first aid. Of the 36 boys examined during the year, 15 received certificates of merit. In the inter-school ambulance competition held during

the Baby Week at Chingleput, the first and second prizes were won by the school teams.

Vital statistics

84. The health of the Government certified schools was very satisfactory. The schools at Rajahmundry and Chingleput returned clean mortality sheets, while one pupil died in the Junior Certified School, Ranipet. The total number of admissions to hospital in these schools and the daily average sick fell from 135 and 12·69 respectively in 1927 to 106 and 4·27 in the year under review. The health of the pupils in the private certified schools was also satisfactory.

Drinking water in all the Government certified schools is chlorinated before use, while the private schools at Madras obtain their water from the Corporation pipe supply. Various improvements were made in the cooking and sanitary arrangements in some of the schools during the year. The completion of the electrification scheme at Chingleput has added considerably to the general efficiency of the school.

Accommodation

85. The total accommodation available was reduced from 707 to 661 mainly due to the abolition of the aided certified school at Velacheri. The number of boys detained in the Senior Certified School, Chingleput, continued to be in excess of the accommodation available. The question of increasing the accommodation of this school, as well as providing adequate accommodation for the Junior Certified School, Rajahmundry, is engaging the attention of Government.

After-care report

86. Of the 101 boys discharged during the year reports have been received only about 41. Three were re-convicted, five were not traceable, three are continuing their education in outside schools and the other 30 are suitably employed.

Finance

87. The total expenditure in respect of the three Government schools amounted to Rs. 1,15,024 as against Rs. 1,08,182 in the previous year. The rise is mainly due to the increase in the number of pupils. The grant given to private certified schools rose from Rs. 9,343 to Rs. 23,791. The increase is due to the rise in population and the payment of grant at enhanced rates to the Senior

Certified School and the Remand Home attached to the Madras Children's Aid Society and the grant of an advance of Rs. 5,000 to the Madras Society for the Protection of Children, towards the cost of repairs to buildings. The total cash earnings of the three Government certified schools decreased from Rs. 9,174 to Rs. 7,526, mainly on account of large outstandings due to the schools remaining unadjusted at the end of the year.

CIVIL JUSTICE (1928)

[*Statistics of the Civil Courts in the Madras Presidency for the year 1928—Statistical Abstract for British India—Civil Justice*]

General

88. On the 31st December 1928, there were in the Presidency the following permanent civil courts:—

Courts

The High Court, the Presidency Court of Small Causes, the City Civil Court, 29 district courts (including three for Agency tracts), 41 subordinate judges' courts (including 7 for Agency tracts and 1 revenue officer exercising the powers of subordinate judge), 2 special small cause courts, 172 district munsifs' courts (including 22 for Agency tracts and 4 revenue officers exercising the powers of district munsifs) and 127 revenue courts. In addition there were 7 temporary subordinate judges' courts and 1 temporary district munsif's court. Besides these there were 21 sub-judges and 16 district munsifs attached to permanent courts under the Amended Civil Courts Act.

Administrative changes

The additional sessions judge at Rāmnād was invested with the powers of a subordinate judge till the 3rd February 1928, the date on which the court was abolished. Six subordinate judges and six district munsifs were newly appointed during the year under the Amended Civil Courts Act. The appointments of four additional subordinate judges and fourteen additional district munsifs were abolished during the year. A new temporary subcourt was opened at Anantapur from the 3rd December 1928. The District Munsif's Court at Tangasseri was abolished and the District Munsif

at Anjengo was appointed District Munsif of Tangasseri also.

Litigation

General

89. The number of suits instituted during 1928 in the courts of the Presidency, including village and panchayat courts, was 532,024 as against 561,530 in 1927. For the Presidency as a whole one suit was instituted for every 80 persons of the population as compared with 75 persons in 1927. The ratio for the Presidency town was 1 for every 33 persons. The nature of the suits instituted was as follows:—

	1927.	1928.
Suits for money or movable property	483,065	453,616
Suits for immovable property, other than mortgage suits ...	21,387	21,328
Mortgage suits	24,267	23,001
Suits for specific relief	3,495	4,159
Suits in revenue courts	27,112	27,915

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Value of suits

The value of suits instituted during the year in courts other than village panchayat and revenue courts was Rs. 1,108·7 lakhs, or about Rs. 82 lakhs more than in 1927. The average value of a suit increased from Rs. 347 in 1927 to Rs. 392 in 1928.

The total number of appeals preferred in the year was 16,369, or 203 less than in the previous year. The average for the preceding five years ending with 1926 was 16,392.

Original jurisdiction

90. The following table gives particulars regarding the institution, disposal and pendency of suits in the different courts, excluding the High Court, as compared with the previous year:—

—	Number instituted.		Number disposed of.		Number pending at the close of the year.		Average duration in days. Contested.		Average duration in days. Uncontested.	
	1927.	1928.	1927.	1928.	1927.	1928.	1927.	1928.	1927.	1928.
1. Village munsifs' courts ...	70,724	70,368	82,461	71,202	7,986	7,181	...	...	...	...
2. Village panchayat courts ...	158,558	150,839	162,556	153,426	32,366	29,777	...	...	...	...
3. Revenue courts (other than in Agency tracts) ...	27,024	27,852	25,797	31,612	10,869	7,708	229	353	105	109
4. Agency courts.	1,507	1,879	1,618	1,833	384	479	195	191	130	72

	Number instituted.		Number disposed of.		Number pending at the close of the year.		Average duration in days.			
							Contested.		Uncontested.	
	1927.	1928.	1927.	1928.	1927.	1928.	1927.	1928.	1927.	1928.
5. District munsifs' courts (other than those in Agency tracts)—										
(a) Ordinary suits ...	108,983	104,652	113,339	109,765	52,042	51,523	309	306	64	66
(b) Small cause suits ...	131,015	127,560	129,119	127,550	18,448	17,634	97	100	50	52
Special small cause courts...	10,409	9,267	10,703	9,022	1,294	1,714	114	110	36	37
7. Subordinate judges' courts.—										
(a) Ordinary suits ...	3,137	3,038	3,311	3,348	3,956	4,161	567	568	88	98
(b) Small cause suits ...	23,650	19,716	23,787	20,782	5,594	4,510	168	178	65	68
8. District courts (other than those in Agency tracts) ...	541	683	393	491	605	644	521	560	113	146
9. The City Civil Court	873	752	932	727	249	287	228	203	36	44
10, The Presidency Court of Small Causes ...	15,424	14,693	15,560	14,589	2,290	2,588	95	106	43	51

It will be noticed that there has been a general fall in the number of suits instituted. The fall is attributed to the adverse season, economic stress and the comparative poverty of the ryots. Seven districts, however, show an increase in the number of suits instituted before district munsifs, the increase being marked in Bellary. There was marked increase in the number of suits filed in the Subordinate Judge's Court at Dēvakōttai and a marked decrease at Bapatla. The increase in the pendency, despite the decrease in the institution and increase in disposal, in subordinate judges' courts was due to the fact that 542 suits were received by transfer and 194 suits revived during 1928. The extention of small cause powers exercised by subordinate judges up to Rs. 1,000 is reported to have worked satisfactorily on the whole.

The total number of suits transferred by district munsifs to village and panchayat courts was only 942 as against 1,505 in 1927. The percentage of appeals preferred against the decisions of revenue courts to the appealable decrees passed by them fell from 5·41 to 4·13, while it rose from 10·72 to 11·46 in the case of district munsifs' courts.

The High Court

In the High Court of Judicature there were 725 suits filed against 685 in 1927. The increase was most noticeable under the heads "suits for money or movable property" and "suits for specific relief." The total number of suits for disposal, including those pending from the previous year, together with suits received by transfer, was 1,646 as compared with 1,617 in 1927. Eight hundred and eighty-seven suits were disposed of as against 747 in 1927, and the arrears fell from 870 to 759. The average duration of contested suits was 692 days and that of uncontested suits 167 days, the corresponding figures for the previous year being 560 and 149 respectively.

Insolvency petitions

91. The number of insolvency petitions presented in the mufassal courts increased from 4,245 to 4,345 and in the High Court from 551 to 566.

Appellate courts

Agency tracts

92. The number of regular appeals filed in the Agency tracts fell from 117 to 108. One hundred and six appeals were disposed of and 35 were left pending at the end of the year.

District and subordinate judges' courts

In the district and subordinate judges' courts the number of appeals filed was 12,982 as against 12,603 in 1927. The number of regular appeals disposed of was 5,869 as against 6,185 in 1927 and the arrears fell from 4,539 to 4,319. The average duration of appeals disposed of was 427 days in the case of contested appeals and 210 days in the case of uncontested appeals. Only 4,825 regular appeals were disposed of by the district judges as compared with 5,817 in 1927. There was also an increase in the number instituted and consequently the arrears rose from 7,123 to 7,636. There was a marked improvement in the average duration of appeals disposed of, those for contested and uncontested appeals being 363 days and 220 days as

compared with 427 and 674 days respectively in the previous year.

The High Court

The following table shows the position in regard to the disposal of appeals by the High Court :—

	Number preferred during		Number disposed of during		Number pending at the end of		Average duration in days.	
	1927.	1928.	1927.	1928.	1927.	1928.	1927.	1928.
From original decrees of mufassal courts	448	482	343	306	1,451	1,636	674	1,249
From orders of mufassal courts ...	524	549	509	352	762	969		450
From decrees passed on the Original Side of the High Court ...	101	143	134	76	103	178		435
From decrees of the City Civil Court ...	60	58	44	32	69	98		519
Letters Patent appeals (other than Original Side appeals)	329	107	245	157	563	520		
Appeals against appellate decrees ..	2,468	1,850	1,463	1,193	4,796	5,746	868	898
Appeals against appellate orders ...	250	197	157	92	323	434		

The percentage of appeals dismissed was as follows:—First appeals from district courts 60·00, from subordinate judges' courts 70·32, from the City Civil Court 62·50, from the original side 85·53, second appeals 76·73 and Letters Patent appeals 75·16.

Appeals to the Privy Council

At the beginning of the year there were 32 applications for leave to appeal to His Majesty in Council pending before the High Court. Eighty-four applications were received during the year. Of these 35 were rejected, leave was granted in 36 applications and 45 were pending at the close of the year. In the Privy Council in England, 32 appeals were pending from the previous year and

ten were newly admitted. Of the total of 42 appeals for disposal five were dismissed with costs, six allowed and three compromised leaving 28 appeals pending at the end of the year.

Reference and revision

93. There was a fall in the number of revision petitions filed in the High Court from 1,943 to 1,794 Of this number 708 were for the revision of decisions in small cause suits. The number of petitions disposed of was 1,510 as against 1,673 in 1927 and the arrears rose from 1,728 to 2,085. Of the total number of petitions disposed of 82·38 per cent were dismissed as against 69·52 per cent in 1927.

The number of cases referred to the High Court by the lower courts, the Commissioner of Income-tax and the Board of Revenue was 15. Of the total of 37 cases for disposal, 23 were disposed of leaving 14 pending at the end of the year.

Execution applications

Mufassal courts

94. The total number of applications for execution in all courts in the mufassal, except village and panchayat courts, was 370,683 as against 368,924 in 1927. The number of applications disposed of also increased from 369,129 to 374,443. Satisfaction was obtained in full in 16·23 of the applications disposed of and in part in 9·66 per cent as compared with 21·96 per cent and 9·51 per cent respectively in 1927. The total amount realized in execution was Rs. 2,15,68,754 as against Rs. 2,18,30,490 in the previous year. The number of debtors imprisoned rose slightly from 3,966 in 1927 to 4,082 in the year under report.

Madras courts

The total number of applications for execution received during the year in the City Civil Court, the Presidency Court of Small Causes and the High Court was 17,473 as against 17,993 in 1927. 17,097 applications were disposed of, leaving 2,825 pending at the close of the year. Satisfaction was obtained in full in 10·09 per cent of the applications disposed of, and in part in 7·64 per cent, the corresponding figures for 1927 being 10·63 and 9·79, respectively. The amount realized in execution rose from Rs. 2,02,614 to Rs. 2,13,253 and the number of judgment-debtors imprisoned from 169 to 194.

Processes

95. In the mufassal courts, other than village and panchayat courts, 2,996,184 processes were

executed by amins and peons. The average for each amin was 201 and for each peon 379 as compared with 206 and 382, respectively, in 1927. The total receipts from the execution of processes were Rs. 23,23,316 and the charges amounted to Rs. 20,02,557, leaving a surplus of Rs. 3,20,759.

Legal practitioners

96. Under the Bar Councils Act which came into force on 16th July 1928 some of the High Court vakils and attorneys were enrolled as advocates. At the end of the year there were on the rolls of the High Court 1,976 advocates, of whom 114 were advocates under the old rules, 1,851 High Court vakils and 11 attorneys. In the mufassal courts there were 4,153 first-grade pleaders and 744 second-grade pleaders.

REGISTRATION AND COMPANIES

[*Report on the administration of the Registration Department for the year 1928; Report on the working of the Indian Companies Act, 1913, the Provident Insurance Societies Act, 1912, and the Indian Life Assurance Companies Act, 1912, for the year 1928–29; Statistical Abstract for British India—Registration and Joint Stock Companies*]

Registration (1928)

Administrative changes

97. There was no change in the number of district charges or district registrars. Three new sub-registry offices were opened and two were started as a temporary measure. The number of separate sub-offices including ex-officio and temporary offices has thus risen from 553 to 558 in the year under review and the number of sub-registrars from 608 to 613. The itinerating system of registry was continued at Kudatini in the Bellary district and was introduced in three additional centres, viz., Tekkalakota (Bellary), Indukurpet (Nellore), and Nakkapalli (Vizagapatam) as a temporary measure for one year.

Registrations

The total number of documents registered showed a further increase from 1,474,977 in 1927 to 1,491,001 in 1928. The increase was mainly due to the stimulus afforded by the reduction of the registration fees from the 1st January 1928 and the investment in land of the money received

as compensation for the lands acquired for the Villupuram-Trichinopoly chord line. The total number of registrations during the triennium ending 1928 was 4,360,041 as compared with 4,119,525 in the preceding triennium. The growth of the co-operative movement accounts for about a fifth of the increase. The rise was general throughout the Presidency except in the districts of Coimbatore, Cuddalore, Palamcottah, Rāmnād, Madura and Tinnevelly. The increase was marked in the districts of North Arcot, West Gōdāvāri, Negapatam and East Gōdāvari. The number of compulsory registrations rose by about 1 per cent as compared with the previous year. The total value of registered transactions rose from Rs. 69·16 crores in 1927 to Rs. 70·26 crores in 1928.

Searches

That the public are consulting registration records in an increasing number is clear from the fact that the number of applications for encumbrance certificates increased from 101,862 in 1927 to 105,207 in the year under review.

Documents registered by or on behalf of co-operative societies fell from 66,928 in 1927 to 53,335 in the year under review, but the number of searches conducted on their behalf increased from 15,667 to 17,132.

Finance

The total income fell from Rs. 41·18 lakhs in 1927 to Rs. 34·69 lakhs in 1928. The decrease is due to the reduction in the scale of registration fees from 1st January 1928, the income from fees for registering documents falling from Rs. 32·6 lakhs in 1927 to 26 lakhs in the year under review. On the other hand the income derived from searches and grant of copies rose from Rs. 7·14 lakhs to Rs. 7·39 lakhs. The expenditure was Rs. 29·87 lakhs as compared with Rs. 29·23 lakhs in the previous year. In spite of the decrease in income, there was a surplus over expenditure of Rs. 4·74 lakhs. All but seven districts paid their way.

Registered companies (1928–29)

98. The year opened with 740 companies, 658 with and 82 without share capital. Seventy companies, 64 with and 6 without share capital, were registered during the year. Forty-two companies were either wound up or struck off the

The Indian Companies Act

register and two companies that were defunct and consequently struck off the register during the previous year were revived by the High Court. The number working at the close of the year thus rose to 770 of which 684 were with and 86 without share capital. The year witnessed the largest number of new registrations and the smallest number of companies that ceased to exist, since 1925–26. It is clear that joint stock organizations are beginning to have a hold on the minds of the investing public.

New companies

With the continuance of the favourable conditions which marked the previous year, the increase in new registrations was maintained. The new registrations comprised 9 banking and loan companies, 37 trading and industrial concerns and 24 miscellaneous companies. The points raised by the Government of India questioning the regularity of the registration of nidhis under the Indian Companies Act and the issues raised in the High Court as to whether subscribers to nidhis should be taken as contributors in a winding-up, have acted as a set-back on the registration of nidhis, and this explains the fall in the number of new registrations under "banking and loan." The increase of life assurance companies from 2 to 5 indicates the growing interest taken by the middle-class public in such companies. Nine companies falling under the group "transit and transport" were registered during the year, while no such company was registered in the previous year. A new company undertaking insurance against accident and fire is the first of its kind in the Presidency and a unique Indian concern was started at Madura for "carrying on the business of collecting, cleaning, powdering and selling bones of all shapes."

Private companies

Thirty-five new companies were registered during the year, ten were either wound-up or struck off the register and one public company converted itself into a private one. The total number of companies thus rose from 147 to 173.

Capital

Twelve companies increased their authorized capital while one reduced it. Amongst the working companies, Spencer & Co., Limited, returns

the biggest increase in the paid-up capital (from Rs. 65 lakhs to Rs. 83 lakhs) while the Buckingham and Carnatic Company, Limited, has the biggest paid-up capital (Rs. 110·5 lakhs).

Companies that ceased to exist

Of the 42 companies that ceased to exist, 10 went into voluntary liquidation, 6 into compulsory liquidation and 26 were removed from the register as defunct. The fact that all the companies of the second class were wound up by the High Court as a result of petitions from aggrieved parties shows that the public are slowly realizing the powers vested in them by the Act to bring to book mismanaged companies.

Auditors

The number of certified auditors rose from 83 to 97, 80 holding unrestricted and 17 restricted certificates.

Provident insurance societies and life assurance companies

Three new societies were registered under the Provident Insurance Societies Act and one under the Indian Life Assurance Companies Act. One provident insurance society, the Indian Mutual Life Association, Limited, converted itself into a life assurance company. There were therefore 17 provident insurance societies and 8 life assurance companies at the close of the year as against 15 and 6 respectively at the close of the previous year.

Finance

Owing to the increase both in the number and the authorized capital of the new registrations, the receipts rose from Rs. 24,015 to Rs. 26,763. The expenditure increased slightly from Rs. 31,012 to Rs. 31,348 due to the grant of increments.

Notaries Public (1928-29)

99. The number of registering officers who exercised the functions of a Notary Public remained the same (199) as in the preceding year. There were 146 transactions during the year amounting in value to Rs. 1,67,782 as compared with 162 transactions amounting to Rs. 2,82,479 in the preceding year. There was a corresponding fall in the fees realized from Rs. 633-11-0 to Rs. 622-2-0. The number of bills of exchange dealt with fell from 153 to 128 while the number of promissory notes rose from 9 to 18. The decrease under bills of exchange occurred in eight districts and was marked in Guntūr and Palghat,

due in the case of former to the establishment of a large number of co-operative societies and in the latter to the slump in trade at Cochin. There was an increase in 12 districts and this was appreciable in Coimbatore, Madura and North Arcot. The increase in promissory notes occurred in three districts and was largest in Salem as a result of the banking activities of the Bombay Saits.

Co-operative Societies

(1st July 1928 to 30th June 1929)

[*Report on the working of the Co-operative Societies Act (II of 1912) for the year 1928–29; Statistical Abstract for British India—Co-operative Societies*]

General

100. The co-operative movement completed its silver jubilee during the year. The post of the joint registrar was made permanent with effect from the 1st April 1929. The posts of the four temporary deputy registrars sanctioned during the previous year were made permanent and the appointments of six additional deputy registrars was also sanctioned. The total number of deputy registrars has thus been increased to 19. Besides Government have also sanctioned one temporary post of deputy registrar as lecturer in co-operation in the Government Institute of Commerce, Madras. The policy of appointing honorary assistant registrars for the supervision of societies for the depressed classes and of special types of non-credit societies was continued. Two posts of sub-deputy registrars for conducting training classes at Coimbatore and Vellore were sanctioned temporarily for a period of five years. The subordinate staff was also considerably strengthened.

The total cost of work under the Co-operative Societies Act during the year was Rs. 8·89 lakhs representing 54 per cent of the total working capital as compared with 50 per cent in the previous year.

Progress

101. Seasonal conditions contributed to the improvement in collection in all the districts in the Circars except Vizagapatam and Gōdāvari, but

there was an increase in arrears in the Ceded Districts. Chittoor, Salem, North Arcot and Coimbatore recorded a fair reduction in overdues.

Expansion and consolidation

It was considered essential that in districts with heavy overdues the question of registration of societies should be examined with great care and it was decided that new societies organized should deal only in short-term loans and that central banks should be advised to give only such loans to the new societies. The organization of new societies was therefore considerably restricted during the year and only 726 societies were registered as against 1,200 in the previous year. The work of rectification was attended to by all federations, a small bank staff and a number of departmental inspectors with satisfactory results.

Number of societies

There were at the end of the year 15,086 societies, of which 12,947 were agricultural and 1,659 non-agricultural.

Membership

The number of members in 14,638 societies excluding 448 unions was 940,784; of these 562,298 were classed as agriculturists, 277,545 as non-agriculturists and 100,941 as partly dependent on agriculture. The percentage of society membership to the population of the Presidency was 2·1 as in the previous year.

Working capital of societies

The working capital of all societies rose from Rs. 1,522·97 lakhs in 1927–28 to Rs. 1,651·53 lakhs in the year under review. The total working capital employed in the movement, excluding the investments of one society in another, amounted to Rs. 908·69 lakhs as compared with Rs. 820·94 lakhs in the previous year, and was made up as follows :—

	LAKHS. RS.
Paid-up share capital	171·70
Deposits of individuals and institutions	611·77
Reserve fund	84·28
Loans from Government	33·94
Total ...	908·69

The owned capital (Rs. 255·98 lakhs) represented 28·2 per cent of the net working capital as against 28·1 in the previous year.

Collection

There was a marked improvement in the payments by primary societies to central banks, the percentage of overdues falling by 3·17 per cent under principal and 42 per cent under current interest, while there was a slight increase under arrear interest. As regards repayments by members to the agricultural societies, there was a fall of 2 per cent in principal and arrear interest and one per cent in current interest. There was also a slight reduction under principal and interest due by members to the non-agricultural societies.

Central banks

There were 31 central banks at work during the year. The model by-laws of central banks were revised and circulated and the recommendations of the Townsend Committee in regard to the appointment of a paid secretary, the keeping of cash under double lock and the taking of securities from those who deal with the bank's cash were accepted and acted on by most of the banks. The introduction of the system of pass books in respect of loans sanctioned to primary societies was accepted at the Bankers' Conference. With a view to improve the fluid resources of the central banks every effort was made to increase their short-term business. Some banks also tried to facilitate their work by carrying out the recommendation that the deposits from local boards received by them should be repayable in small amounts over the period when the banks themselves are receiving large payments.

District federations

The number of district federations in the Presidency was 25 as compared with 19 in the previous year. They have amply justified their existence and are making their influence felt on the supervision of primary societies. To make their work in co-ordinating and supervising the activities of the several units more effective they were required to pool all supervision funds, to combine the staff into a district cadre and to employ a chief executive officer for each district. The fund has actually been pooled in 22 federations and

arrangements were made for its collection by the central bank. The services of experienced officers were lent to eleven federations to serve as district officers.

Provincial union

The Provincial Co-operative Union has gradually strengthened its position as the non-official centre of all kinds of co-operative activity and its relations with the department are cordial. With the aid of a grant from the Madras Central Urban Bank, it developed into a propagandist and teaching body. The union is now being linked up with the work of the training institutes. Five such institutes were at work and three of them, viz., those at Coimbatore, Anantapur and Bezwada, were registered during the year. Six hundred and twelve candidates, including about 100 inspectors, underwent training in the several institutes during the year. Classes for rural panchayatdars were held in 370 centres and were attended by 12,791 panchayatdars.

Local supervising unions

The year commenced with 414 unions and 34 were registered during the year, bringing the total to 448. The number of societies affiliated to these unions was 12,383 with a membership of 790,713. The total working capital of the affiliated societies rose by Rs. 64 lakhs.

Trading societies.

Trading activities were carried on by both agricultural and non-agricultural societies. These societies purchased and sold, as owner, goods to the value of Rs. 26·55 lakhs and Rs. 28·03 lakhs respectively as compared with Rs. 25·42 lakhs and Rs. 26·67 lakhs in the previous year. There were 63 loan and sale societies, four of which dealt in cotton, providing godowns for the produce, advancing money on it and arranging for its ginning, grading and sale. The object of the other societies was to build, buy or hire godowns for storing agricultural produce and advance money thereon, to enable the ryot to sell the produce at his leisure in the best market. During the year the primary societies and loan and sale societies advanced a sum of Rs. 16·30 lakhs as loans on standing crops and a sum of Rs. 13·83 lakhs on the pledge of produce in the godowns.

Labour contract societies

There were 63 societies for labourers for the purpose of taking labour-contracts and thereby finding work for their members. Only 33 societies secured contracts to the value of Rs. 1,63,325, while they had at the beginning of the year work pending execution to the value of Rs. 1,71,833. They actually completed during the year work valued at Rs. 2,28,665 and paid a sum of Rs. 94,618 as wages.

Land reclamation societies

There were ten land reclamation societies with 565 members in Trichinopoly and Tanjore. An extent of 1,068 acres has so far been cleared by them. To facilitate reclamation the Public Works department supplied rails and wagons free of cost and also lent the services of a supervisor and mechanic for their periodical inspection and upkeep.

Land mortgage banks

The number of land mortgage banks at the end of the year was 21 with a membership of 1,674 and a working capital of Rs. 8,66,653. They earned a net profit of Rs. 10,970. Several applications for registering more banks were kept in abeyance pending the formation of a central land mortgage bank to surmount certain difficulties hitherto encountered.

Irrigation societies

At the end of the year there were nine societies for carrying out kudimaramat work and eight for the purpose of joint irrigation with the aid of power pumps. One irrigation society in South Arcot took a loan of Rs. 2,700 and installed an oil-engine for pumping water from a well.

Milk supply societies

During the year 23 new societies for the supply of milk were registered. The 31 societies that were actually at work in Madras and the Chingleput district sold 133,030 Madras measures of milk valued at Rs. 54,708 as against 31,000 measures valued at Rs. 15,500 in the previous year. The loan of Rs. 15,000 sanctioned to the Milk Supply Union was fully spent in the purchase of lorries for the transport of milk to Madras.

Other societies

Twenty-one co-operative societies for students were registered during the year and 64 were at work at its close. There were in the societies 2,243 students, 757 teachers and 3,054 associates.

The activities of the societies in the purchase and distribution of stationery and books effected savings estimated at Rs. 4,559. There were 55 societies exclusively for weavers and 86 credit societies of which more than 60 per cent were weavers. Their working capital and divisible profits showed an appreciable increase during the year.

There were 16 agricultural demonstration societies. Though some societies did very useful work, several did practically nothing.

Working of societies

Central banks

102. The following comparative statement of the progress of the 31 district central banks, excluding the Madras Central Urban Bank, shows that their work is steadily expanding :—

	1927-28. LAKHS. RS.	1928-29. LAKHS. RS.
Working capital	543	576
Deposits	481	508
Paid-up share capital	49	52
Reserve fund	15·5	19

At the end of the year the deposits from local boards and other special sources amounted to Rs. 171·19 lakhs as compared with Rs. 161·07 lakhs at the end of the previous year. The deposits held by the district banks from non-members and members increased from Rs. 331·91 lakhs to Rs. 350·97 lakhs representing 69 per cent of the working capital, as against 61 per cent in the previous year. Loans amounting to Rs. 25·22 lakhs were disbursed to individuals on the security of their deposits and Rs. 262·92 lakhs to societies.

As usual the Imperial Bank of India rendered great assistance to the movement, particularly in regard to the provision of fluid resources by allowing overdrafts, the total amount allowed to the various central banks being Rs. 37·16 lakhs as compared with Rs. 36·66 lakhs in the preceding year. The Imperial Bank has pointed out that it cannot guarantee that its overdrafts will not be withdrawn and has suggested that the central banks should themselves provide a portion of the fluid resources which will increase in five years from 35 to 75 per cent, the balance being provided from the Imperial Bank cash credit. There was

an appreciable increase in both book and divisible profits in six central banks. All, except four, will be in a position to declare dividends at the maximum rate of nine per cent.

The principal arrears under long-and short-term loans were nil in Aska Central Bank. The percentage of arrears of long-term loans in the other banks showed considerable variation ranging from 1·75 to 70·59, but the arrears were less than 20 per cent in the case of short-term loans in all except four banks. Most of the banks have shown decided improvement in the collection of arrear interest and the arrears of current interest were also kept below 10 per cent in all but three banks.

Madras Central Urban Bank

The following comparative statement shows the progress of the working of the Madras Central Urban Bank:—

	1927-28. LAKHS. RS.	1928-29. LAKHS. RS.
Working capital	138	147
Deposits	125	132
Paid-up share capital	5·96	6·14
Reserve fund	9	9·6

The deposits of individuals rose from Rs. 56·95 lakhs to Rs. 61·75 lakhs, while those of local boards, municipalities, etc., fell from Rs. 27·82 lakhs to Rs. 22·37 lakhs at the end of the year. Loans to the extent of Rs. 65·37 lakhs were issued during the year. The total of loans outstanding amounted to Rs. 82·27 lakhs as compared with Rs. 85·51 lakhs in the previous year. Direct indebtedness of primary societies to the Urban Bank was further reduced from Rs. 1,500 to Rs. 637. An overdraft of Rs. 17·55 lakhs was sanctioned by the Imperial Bank of India on the security of co-operative societies demand promissory notes and Rs. 10 lakhs on Government securities. The net divisible profit of the bank fell from Rs. 2·61 lakhs in 1927–28 to Rs. 1·35 lakhs in the year under report as a result of the depreciation in the value of Government paper.

Agricultural societies

103. The number of agricultural credit societies increased from 11,966 to 12,382. The financial

position of the societies as a whole is shown below :—

	1927-28. LAKHS. RS.	1928-29. LAKHS. RS.
Working capital	574	617
Paid-up share capital	67·56	74·57
Deposits	24·82	31·19
Loans from central banks ...	438·64	461·91
Loans from Government ...	9·65	10·32
Reserve fund	33·13	39·47

Agricultural credit societies

The expansion in the activities of the societies during the year as disclosed by the above figures was mainly due to the consolidation and development of the societies already in existence. The total loans issued during the year amounted to 40 per cent of the working capital. Short-term loans increased by 12 per cent and those for long terms showed a corresponding decrease. A gratifying feature was the noticeable increase in the amount of loans granted for productive purposes which rose from Rs. 151·50 lakhs to Rs. 164·69 lakhs. There was only a very slight increase of Rs. 4,000 in loans for non-productive purposes while those for redemption of prior debts fell by Rs. 18 lakhs. The amount borrowed from central banks decreased from Rs. 206·17 lakhs to Rs. 200·13 lakhs. A sum of Rs. 63,204 representing the kists due by members was paid by certain societies in the districts of Kistna and Nellore.

The divisible profits of all societies during the year amounted to Rs. 12·38 lakhs as compared with Rs. 9·70 lakhs in the previous year. The total unrecouped loss rose from Rs. 10·98 lakhs to Rs. 11·77 lakhs.

Societies for purchase and sale

The number of agricultural societies for purchase and for sale rose from 127 to 133 during the year. In spite of a fall in the working capital the net profits of all the societies increased from Rs. 16,423 to Rs. 18,545, while the net loss showed a decrease of about Rs. 11,000.

Societies for production and sale

There were at the end of the year 41 societies of this class of which 35 were societies for the supply of milk.

Cattle insurance societies

The number of cattle insurance societies remained the same as in the previous year.

Other agricultural societies

The total number of agricultural societies for purposes other than those specified above rose from 348 to 387.

Non-agricultural societies

Credit societies

104. The following table shows the general progress of non-agricultural credit societies during the year:—

		1927-28.	1928-29.
Number of societies	...	1,135	1,144
Number of members	...	197,945	209,682
		LAKHS. RS.	LAKHS. RS.
Paid-up share capital	...	58·41	63·79
Deposits by individuals	...	119·49	133·68
Working capital ...	...	217·6	239·8
Net divisible profit	...	8·06	9·07

That the ability of these societies to attract their own resources is growing is shown by the fact that the amount borrowed both from central banks and other sources decreased by about Rs. 1 lakh during the year. Loans to the extent of Rs. 169·37 lakhs were advanced to members while the total loans outstanding were Rs. 205·72 lakhs.

Thrift societies

There were 131 societies on thrift basis, the South Kanara district accounting for as many as 124. Their paid-up share capital increased to Rs. 40,252 and out of the savings a sum of Rs. 14,803 has been invested in other societies.

Societies for purchase, production and sale co-operative stores and other trading societies

The number of societies for purchase, for purchase and sale, for production and for production and sale increased during the year from 241 to 270. Excluding 55 societies for weavers, the societies purchased goods to the value of Rs. 22·70 lakhs, while the sales amounted to Rs. 23·84 lakhs. Their working capital and net profits were Rs. 21·69 lakhs and Rs. 53,850 respectively.

Other non-agricultural societies

In addition, there were at the end of the year 245 other societies as compared with 217 in the

previous year. Of these 140 were building societies.

Societies for backward classes

105. The number of societies for depressed and backward classes rose during the year from 3,026 to 3,090. Of these 1,735 were in charge of the Labour department, 972 in charge of the Co-operative department and 383 in charge of the Superintendent of Police for Kallars. The steady progress made by the societies in charge of the Co-operative department is indicated by the following statement :—

	1927-28.	1928-29.
Number of members	34,378	37,901
	LAKHS. RS.	LAKHS. RS.
Paid-up share capital	2·43	3·46
Deposits of members	·25	·34
Loans from central banks and non-members	8·76	8·04
Reserve fund	·83	1·66

Four hundred and forty-two societies with a membership of 34,921 took up joint or individual cultivation by members, and at the end of the year they had 39,280 acres under their enjoyment.

There were in addition 95 societies for hill tribes at the end of the year. It is proposed to organize a land mortgage bank for the improvement of the economic condition of the Badagas of the Nilgiris.

Reserve fund

106. The total reserve fund of all societies will amount to Rs. 97·24 lakhs as compared with Rs. 82·18 lakhs in the previous year, after the contributions to the reserve fund have been made in accordance with the audit orders on the accounts for the year. The sum is distributed as follows :—

	1927-28. RS.	1928-29. RS.
Madras Central Urban Bank ...	9,00,000	9,60,702
District Central Banks ...	15,52,338	18,98,988
Agricultural Primary Societies ...	39,26,249	46,89,599
Non-Agricultural Societies ...	18,39,852	21,74,629
Total ...	82,18,439	97,23,918

Supervision

107. The supervision fund opened with a balance of Rs. 1·01 lakhs. The total receipts of all district federations and supervising audit unions during the year amounted to Rs. 9·47 lakhs. The expenditure was Rs. 9·29 lakhs leaving a balance of Rs. 1·29 lakhs at the end of the year. The total demand of the supervision fund, including arrears of primary societies, was Rs. 4·08 lakhs of which Rs. 2·57 lakhs were collected. As the supervision fund is now made the first charge on remittances by societies better results are expected in future.

Litigation

108. The number of suits instituted in civil courts fell from 1,435 in 1927–28 to 1,026 in the year under review. 24,768 arbitration references were preferred under the rules framed under the Act as compared with 20,444 in the previous year. On the whole the disposal of disputes has been considerably expedited by the maintenance of a panel of arbitrators in every district.

Liquidation

109. The registration of 150 societies was cancelled during the year as against 107 in the previous year. Three hundred and fifty-eight were pending liquidation proceedings at the close of the year.

Miscellaneous

110. Audit is now being performed more expeditiously than before and its quality has also been considerably improved. Audit of all societies with the exception of 13 was completed before the end of the year and certificates were issued to all but 78 societies. The revision of the Co-operative Societies Act, 1912, is under consideration. Rules for the grant of State loans to co-operative building societies were amended so as to permit advance payment of instalments, which will have the effect of reducing the amount of subsequent instalments, without any reduction in the period within which the loans are repayable. The attitude of the public towards the co-operative movement continued to be cordial and the number of honorary workers is steadily increasing.

LOCAL BOARDS ADMINISTRATION (1928-29)

[*Statistical Abstract for British India—District and Local Boards*]

General District boards

111. The total number of district boards in the Presidency was 25 as in the previous year. The Kistna District Board was, however, dissolved on 20th April 1928 and the Collector of the district was appointed Special Officer to exercise all the powers and perform all the duties of the District Board and its President, during the interval between its dissolution and reconstitution. Of the remaining 24 boards the Nilgiri District Board was the only one of which the President was not a non-official. The District Board of West Gōdāvari was permitted during the year to elect its President and twenty-one district boards had elected Presidents at the close of the year. The total sanctioned strength of the district boards was 974. The actual strength at the close of the year including ex-officio members was 887, of whom 208 were nominated by Government and 559 elected by the taluk boards. The district boards held in all 256 meetings during the year, three of which were adjourned for want of a quorum and four for want of time or other reasons.

Taluk boards

The total number of taluk boards in the Presidency continued to be 129. All the taluk boards were presided over by non-officials and in 123 boards the office of the President was filled by election. The sanctioned strength of the taluk boards rose from 2,539 to 2,541. The actual strength at the close of the year was 2,487 of whom 596 were nominated and 1,891 elected. Elections were held during the year to fill 867 seats on the taluk boards. At those which were contested (647) 55·4 per cent of the electors voted. The taluk boards held 1,351 meetings during the year, of which 12 were adjourned for want of a quorum and 15 for want of time or other reasons.

Union boards

There were 462 union boards. Their actual strength at the close of the year was 5,025 of whom 1,161 were nominated.

Taxes

Under the Madras Local Boards Act, 1920, the levy of land-cess at the rate of one anna in the

rupee of the annual rental value is obligatory. An additional cess up to a maximum of three pies in the rupee was levied during the year by 20 district boards and 112 taluk boards. The profession tax was levied by the Nilgiri District Board and by 35 taluk boards and the companies' tax by the Nilgiri District Board and 16 taluk boards. These two taxes were as before collected with difficulty. The education cess for the expansion of elementary education was levied during the year by 115 taluk boards. The Nilgiri District Board levied the cess in the whole of the area under its jurisdiction and the Malabar District Board in the area under the jurisdiction of the old Wynaad Taluk Board. Tolls on carriages, carts and animals were collected in all districts. House tax was levied in all unions.

Finance—Receipts

112. The aggregate balance at the beginning of the year was Rs. 91·09 lakhs. The total receipts (both ordinary and capital) amounted to Rs. 517·5 lakhs as compared with 459·5 lakhs in the previous year. The grants received from Provincial funds were Rs. 126·49 lakhs as against Rs. 129·17 lakhs in 1927–28. Of this sum Rs. 3·29 lakhs were in aid of the general resources of the boards, Rs. 22·1 lakhs for the upkeep of trunk roads, Rs. 68·68 lakhs for education and Rs. 2·98 lakhs for the maintenance of hospitals and dispensaries. Special Government grants amounting to Rs. 14·53 lakhs for the improvement of village communications and of water-supply in rural areas were sanctioned during the year. The total amount expended from this grant before the close of the year was Rs. 7·48 lakhs.

Expenditure

113. The total expenditure (both ordinary and capital) was Rs. 517·41 lakhs as compared with Rs. 456·1 lakhs in 1927–28. The aggregate closing balance was Rs. 91·17 lakhs.

Communications

The total outlay on communications amounted to Rs. 174·38 lakhs as against Rs. 165·49 lakhs in 1927–28, of which Rs. 48·98 lakhs were met from Provincial grants. Six hundred and eighty miles of new roads were laid during the year. The total length of roads maintained by the boards at the

close of the year was 29,449 miles of which 3,091 miles were trunk roads.

Education

The number of secondary and elementary schools maintained by all the boards during the year was 184 and 16,446 respectively. A Sanskrit College was maintained by the Tanjore District Board. The number of pupils in the elementary schools was 869,937. There were 13,929 pupils on the rolls of the elementary department of the board secondary schools and 27,697 pupils in the secondary department. The total expenditure incurred on education during the year was Rs. 121·02 lakhs, of which the Government contributed Rs. 68·68 lakhs, while the income from fees and other receipts amounted to Rs. 25·71 lakhs. The net amount contributed by local boards was Rs. 26·63 lakhs.

Medical relief

Several hospitals were taken over by Government during the year and the number of hospitals maintained by local boards, therefore, fell from 109 in 1927–28 to 68 in the year under review. But the number of dispensaries under their control increased from 697 to 772, mainly due to the opening of a large number of rural dispensaries. The total number of in-patients who received treatment at the medical institutions decreased from 22,982 to 13,056 and that of out-patients from 6,975,403 to 6,593,402. The aggregate cost of maintaining these institutions amounted to Rs. 19·96 lakhs.

Vaccination

114. The 526 vaccinators employed by the local boards, performed 1,230,432 successful vaccinations during the year representing a ratio of approximately 32·5 per mille of the population of the Presidency. The total expenditure on preventive medicine including water-supply and sanitation was Rs. 15·62 lakhs as compared with Rs. 14·41 lakhs in the previous year.

Railways

115. The management of the Suramangalam-Salem Railway was taken over by the Government of India from 1st April 1928. Railways owned by the district boards were therefore at work in five districts in the Presidency (Tanjore, Coimbatore, Guntūr, Kistna and Tinnevelly) as against six in the previous year.

Tanjore — The net earnings of the Tanjore District Board Railway (131 miles) decreased from Rs. 6·2 lakhs to Rs. 4·4 lakhs and worked out to 6·4 per cent of the capital outlay as compared with 8·9 per cent in the previous year.

Coimbatore — The net earnings of the Podanur-Pollachi Railway (25 miles) decreased from Rs. 2·02 lakhs to Rs. 1·97 lakhs or from 11·7 per cent to 11·4 per cent on the capital outlay.

Guntūr — The gross earnings of the Tenali-Repalli Railway (21 miles) amounted to Rs. 2·71 lakhs and the working expenses to Rs. 1·36 lakhs. The net earnings were thus Rs. 1·35 lakhs or 8·7 per cent on the capital outlay as compared with 8·9 per cent in the previous year.

Kistna — The net earnings of the Kistna District Board from the Bezwada-Masulipatam Railway (52 miles) amounted to Rs. 4·89 lakhs or 38·7 per cent on the capital outlay while those of the West Gōdāvari District Board amounted to Rs. 5·27 lakhs or 22·5 per cent on the capital outlay.

Tinnevelly — The gross earnings of the Tinnevelly-Tiruchendur Railway (38 miles) were Rs. 4·9 lakhs and the working expenses Rs. 2·6 lakhs. The net earnings thus amounted to Rs. 2·3 lakhs or 8·6 per cent on the capital outlay as against 8·9 per cent in 1927-28.

MUNICIPAL ADMINISTRATION—MUFASSAL (1928–29)

[*Statistical Abstract for British India—Municipalities*]

General — 116. Karaikudi was constituted a municipality during the year and the number of municipalities therefore rose from 80 to 81. The total sanctioned number of seats on all the municipal councils was 1,772, of which 1,684 were occupied at the close of the year including 421 members appointed by Government. There were over 30 European members on councils. The municipal councils held 2,143 meetings as compared with 2,182 in the previous year. Two hundred and five meetings were adjourned for want of a quorum and 83 for

other reasons. The average attendance of members at meetings decreased from 63·3 per cent to 60·8 per cent of the sanctioned strength. Of the 469 elections held during the year, 345 were contested and over 63 per cent of the voters exercised their franchise as compared with 67 per cent in the previous year.

Finance—Receipts

117. The aggregate opening balance was Rs. 40·6 lakhs as against Rs. 46·5 lakhs in 1927–28. Receipts (both ordinary and capital) amounted to Rs. 201·7 lakhs as compared with Rs. 207·4 lakhs in the previous year. Of the receipts Rs. 40·7 lakhs were derived from taxes. The average incidence of taxation per head of population was Rs. 2–10–3 against Rs. 2–10–5 for the previous year. Grants from Provincial funds for the maintenance of services amounted to Rs. 13·1 lakhs as against Rs. 14·61 lakhs in 1927–28. Of this Rs. 10·4 lakhs were paid for education, Rs. 1·6 lakhs for roads and Rs. 0·3 lakh for medical relief. Further grants from Provincial funds amounting to Rs. 6·3 lakhs were paid during the year towards the cost of capital works. Of this amount, Rs. 5·5 lakhs were grants for works connected with water-supply and drainage. Loans amounting to Rs. 12·3 lakhs were advanced by the Government during the year as compared with Rs. 20·95 lakhs in the previous year. The Municipal Councils of Tanjore, Hindupur and Madura borrowed Rs. 2·5 lakhs, Rs. 1·1 lakhs and Rs. 0·5 lakh respectively for electric lighting schemes, and the Saidapet Municipal Council Rs. 96,500 for macadamizing the trunk road. The Tiruvannāmalai Municipal Council took a loan of Rs. 0·75 lakh for works connected with the water-supply scheme and the Salem Municipal Council a similar sum for drainage works. The Saidapet and Trichinopoly Municipal Councils took loans of Rs. 0·7 lakh and Rs. 1 lakh, respectively, for schemes connected with the construction of markets. Several other municipal councils borrowed smaller sums for various purposes.

Expenditure

Communications

118. The total expenditure (both ordinary and capital) was Rs. 198·8 lakhs as compared with Rs. 213·4 lakhs in the previous year. The expenditure on communications amounted to Rs. 28·9

lakhs of which Rs. 14·8 lakhs were spent on the maintenance of roads and Rs. 7 lakhs on lighting.

Water-supply and drainage

During the year water-supply schemes in eight municipalities and improvements to old schemes in four municipalities were under execution by the Public Works department. Besides, seven other schemes for improving existing water-works were entrusted to municipalities for execution. The Vellore drainage scheme was completed and handed over to the municipality, while the Madura drainage scheme was also practically completed. The total expenditure in connexion with water-supply and drainage schemes, including expenditure on capital works, amounted to Rs. 36·6 lakhs as compared with Rs. 40·9 lakhs in the previous year. Of this expenditure, a sum of Rs. 5·9 lakhs was met out of grants from Provincial funds and Rs. 1·56 lakhs from loans advanced by Government.

Medical relief

Several hospitals and dispensaries were taken over by Government during the year and the number of medical institutions maintained by the municipal councils, therefore, fell from 151 in 1927–28 to 113 in the year under review. These institutions afforded relief to 4,782 in-patients and 2,415,113 out-patients. The total expenditure incurred by the councils on medical relief amounted to Rs. 6·7 lakhs and on sanitation to Rs. 23 lakhs.

Education

There were 1,488 elementary schools under the management of municipal councils as compared with 1,464 in the previous year. The Salem Municipal Council continued to maintain a second-grade college. Including the High School department of the Salem College, the number of secondary schools maintained by the municipal councils was 52 as in the previous year. The total expenditure on elementary education was Rs. 17·7 lakhs, of which Rs. 8·6 lakhs were met from Government grants and Rs. 6·8 lakhs from general municipal funds. The total expenditure incurred on secondary education was Rs. 11·8 lakhs, of which a sum of Rs. 2·4 lakhs was covered by subsidies from Provincial funds.

The aggregate closing balance of the year, including both ordinary and capital, was Rs. 43·47 lakhs as compared with 40·51 lakhs at the close of the previous year. The balance of Provincial loans outstanding against municipal councils at the end of the year rose from Rs. 90·78 lakhs to Rs. 102·11 lakhs. Closing balance and debt

MUNICIPAL ADMINISTRATION—CITY OF MADRAS (1928-29)

[*Administration Report of the Corporation of Madras for 1928-29; Statistical Abstract for British India—Municipalities*]

119. The total receipts for the year including the opening balance, amounted to Rs. 1,22,37,492 as against Rs. 1,35,86,244 in the previous year. Revenue from all sources amounted to Rs. 51·69 lakhs as against Rs. 51·63 lakhs in 1927-28. The incidence of taxation per head of population under all taxes including tolls was Rs. 7-8-2 as compared with Rs. 7-2-9 in the previous year. The rate of property tax remained the same as in the preceding year. The entertainment tax was levied during the last 2½ months of the year under report, in accordance with the resolution of the Council, dated 5th December 1928. The debts at the end of the year amounted to Rs. 1,31,82,765 and the sinking fund relating to the various loans, exclusive of Government loans repayable in instalments, was Rs. 36,33,511, of which Rs. 35,33,600 were in Government securities and Madras municipal debentures and Rs. 99,911 in cash. Payments amounting to Rs. 8,40,446 were also made during the year towards the repayment of the Government loans of Rs. 80½ lakhs and interest thereon. The expenditure under all heads amounted to Rs. 74·29 lakhs as against Rs. 83·50 lakhs in the previous year. The amount spent under "management" was Rs. 6·37 lakhs against Rs. 5·76 lakhs in the previous year. **Finance**

120. Only a sum of Rs. 747 was spent during the year under the capital account on general improvements to the communications of the city. Most of these works had been left incomplete at the **Works** Communications

end of the previous year and they were executed during the year under report. The amount spent on repairs was Rs. 4·70 lakhs as against Rs. 5·11 lakhs in the previous year. The length of roads that was metalled for the first time was 1 furlong and 134 yards while that of roads re-formed was 38 miles, 5 furlongs and 21 yards. The cost of re-forming the roads was Rs. 4,396 per mile as against Rs. 4,029 in 1927-28. Seven miles, 4 furlongs, 21 yards and 1 foot of roads were tarred for the first time and 6 miles, 6 furlongs, 34 yards and 2 feet were re-tarred. The total length of tarred roads in the city at the end of the year was 64 miles, 7 furlongs, 131 yards and 2 feet.

Buildings

The amount spent on the construction of new buildings was Rs. 15,289 and that on repairs was Rs. 32,652 as compared with Rs. 1,09,027 and Rs. 33,381 respectively in the previous year. The works carried out during the year were the construction of flush-out latrines and bathing fountains and improvements to the Lethal Chambers at Krishnampet and Basin Road. A sum of Rs. 1,10,596 was spent on the Mambalam Town-Planning scheme. Some important works such as formation of roads, construction of culverts and plantation of avenue trees were carried out during the year.

Drainage

A sum of Rs. 2·60 lakhs was spent on Capital works during the year and Rs. 2·61 lakhs on maintenance. Sewers were laid in some of the important areas, the total length laid during the year being 44,421 feet. One hundred and eighty-two house connexions to the sewers were made during the year as against 314 in the previous year.

Water-supply

During the year, the expenditure on new works amounted to Rs. 1,84,459 as compared with Rs. 96,055 in the previous year. Rupees 3·15 lakhs were spent on maintenance. The quantity of water supplied during the year was 6,016·94 millions of gallons which is equivalent to nearly 31·29 gallons per head per day. One thousand four hundred and seventy-one new house-service connexions were laid by licensed plumbers and

1,534 were repaired, renewed or extended. The total number of house-service connexions in the city on 31st March 1929 was 37,247 of which 2,501 were provided with meters. Fifty-six public fountains and 3 bathing fountains were constructed and 32 fountains, 1 bathing fountain and 3 cattle troughs were removed during the year. The quantity of water taken out of Red Hills lake during the year was 987,442,839 cubic feet as against 851,096,646 cubic feet in the previous year.

Education

121. A sum of Rs. 2,40,000 was paid from Corporation funds as contribution towards the Education fund. The amount realized by the levy of education tax at 1¼ per cent during the year was Rs. 2·44 lakhs. The Government made a grant of Rs. 27,130 for the maintenance of the 12 Muslim boys' schools and two Muslim girls' schools transferred to the management of the Corporation, and also paid Rs. 2·25 lakhs as contribution equivalent to the amount of education cess collected during the previous year. The expenditure on education during the year amounted to Rs. 6·60 lakhs as against Rs. 5·22 lakhs in the previous year. Elementary education is now compulsory in all divisions of the city. Twenty-eight schools were opened during the year by the Corporation in rented buildings. The total number of schools under the control of the Corporation rose from 104 to 132, of which 46 were girls' schools as against 34 in the previous year. The number of pupils on the rolls of the Corporation schools was 26,649 (16,051 boys and 10,598 girls) on 31st March 1929 as compared with 21,542 (13,710 boys and 7,832 girls) in the previous year. There were 1,054 teachers including 49 handicraft instructors and 11 music mistresses as against 749 teachers in the previous year. Of the 132 schools, 45 are held in buildings owned by the Corporation and the rest in rented buildings. Steps are being taken to acquire sites for the construction of buildings for those schools that are now located in rented buildings. There are four medical inspectors and two medical inspectresses for examining periodically the health of the children in the Corporation schools.

Public health

122. The amount spent on medical relief amounted to Rs. 1·63 lakhs and that on preventive medicine and public amenities to Rs. 12·53 lakhs and Rs. 77,662 respectively. The expenditure on sanitation and conservancy during the year was Rs. 9·49 lakhs. Contributions amounting to Rs. 17,003 were paid to hospitals and dispensaries. The expenditure on the maintenance of the Corporation hospitals and Child Welfare centres was Rs. 2·85 lakhs as compared with Rs. 2·55 lakhs in the previous year. The total number of patients treated rose from 549,418 to 613,136. The expenditure on vaccination and registration of births and deaths was Rs. 47,611 as against Rs. 43,421. The total number of persons vaccinated was 51,642 as against 33,134 in the previous year. There were 23,729 births (12,135 males and 11,594 females) registered during the year. The number of deaths registered was 26,715, the death-rate being 50·5 per mille as against 42·3 in the previous year. Among the anti-malarial measures adopted were the cleaning of several ponds and tanks, petrolizing pools and puddles and the introduction of larvicidal fishes in all the wells of the city to destroy mosquitoes. Expenditure on the public parks during the year amounted to Rs. 35,904 against Rs. 34,609 in the previous year. The cost of maintaining the fire-engines was Rs. 21,133 as compared with Rs. 25,994 in the previous year.

Electric lighting

123. Expenditure under this head amounted to Rs. 3·01 lakhs for maintenance and Rs. 26,951 for capital works. On 31st March 1929, there were 9,240 electric lights in use in the city as compared with 9,020 at the end of the previous year. Suspension lights are being installed at important junctions of streets and in all the places where there are avenue trees and very heavy traffic. The electric traffic controller erected at Body-guard Road junction of General Hospital Road was put into operation during the year.

MILITARY—AUXILIARY AND TERRITORIAL FORCES (1928-29)

124. The total strength of the thirteen Auxiliary Force units in the Madras Military district on the 31st March 1929 was 7,009. Over 75 per cent of the personnel attended the annual camps held during the year. Satisfactory progress was made by all units and keen interest displayed by all ranks in the various duties entrusted to them. Auxiliary Force

The total strength of the six Indian Territorial Force units on the 31st March 1929 was 2,346. Some difficulty was experienced in recruitment to most of the battalions. Indian Territorial Force

MARINE (1928-29)

[*Reports of the Madras Port Trust, the Madras Port Fund, the Tuticorin Port Fund and the Madras Port Department for the year 1928-29*]

125. The seasonal conditions in the Presidency were on the whole satisfactory and the Madras Port passed through a prosperous year. The total tonnage of vessels that entered the port, the tonnage of imports and that of exports were the highest on record and the revenue receipts of the year were also the largest in the history of the port. **Madras Port Trust** General

The actual revenue receipts including the contribution of Rs. 60,000 made by the Madras Port Fund, amounted to Rs. 49,55,974, an increase of 10 per cent over 1927-28. The gross expenditure amounted to Rs. 64,77,293. Excluding from the gross expenditure the interest on loans, contribution to capital, repayment of debts, sinking fund and a contribution of Rs. 18 lakhs to three reserve funds and omitting from the receipts the amount contributed by the Madras Port Fund, the actual working expenses came to 52·55 per cent of the income as compared with 53·7 per cent in the previous year. The total amount of Government securities that stood to the credit of the sinking Finance

fund at the end of the year was Rs. 6·06 lakhs. The outstanding amount of loan due to the Secretary of State for India in Council was Rs. 131·8 lakhs at the close of the year.

Traffic — Though the number of vessels that entered the harbour decreased from nine hundred and thirty-six in 1927–28 to eight hundred and ninety-six in 1928–29, the total net registered tonnage increased from 3,013,109 to 3,075,028. The average tonnage of each vessel increased from 3,564 to 3,663 net registered tons. 95,952 passengers arrived at the port during the year and 77,487 left the port.

Trade — The total tonnage of imports and exports during the year reached the record figure of 1,595,891, an increase of 10·49 per cent over the previous year. The total value of the trade of the port excluding Government transactions amounted to Rs. 5,202 lakhs, representing 48·64 per cent of the aggregate trade of the Presidency.

Imports — The tonnage of imports amounted to 1,101,975. There was an appreciable increase in the imports of cement, coal, foodgrains other than rice, sugar and molasses, liquid fuel, benzine, chemical manures and tanning substances, while the imports of railway plant and rolling stock, rice and iron decreased.

Exports — The total tonnage of goods shipped from the port increased from 396,688 tons to 493,916 tons. There was an increase of 29·38 per cent in the export of groundnuts, which accounted for about 70 per cent of the total exports of the port. The large extent sown with the crop, the good yield, increasing demand from abroad and the fairly remunerative prices offered account for the large increase in the shipment. Scrap iron, onions, raw cotton, and unmanufactured tobacco also contributed to the large increase in exports.

Works — Substantial progress was made in the construction of the new deep-water quay and of a new breakwater from the south-east corner of the harbour and in repairs to the damages caused by the cyclone of 1927. The extension of the spring-haven shed and the construction of two new warehouses at the south accretion were completed

during the year. An open shed was constructed for groundnut traffic. The Cooum pump installation was brought into use about the end of July 1928. A new tidal observatory was completed during the year and the tide-registering instruments were removed to the new building.

The construction of quarters for the harbour masters was commenced.

The suction dredger "Madras" worked for about 70 days during the year in maintenance dredging and for about 120 days in deepening the harbour.

Madras Port Fund

126. The ordinary receipts and charges of the Port Fund were Rs. 2,86,772 and Rs. 2,36,401 as compared with Rs. 2,76,803 and Rs. 1,91,942 respectively in the previous year. Increased receipts under port dues amounted to about two-thirds of the increase in the total receipts. The increase in expenditure during the year was mainly under the heads "Supplies and Services," "Works" and "Establishment."

Tuticorin Port Trust

Finance

127. The total receipts during the year were Rs. 4,11,998 as against Rs. 4,32,386 in the preceding year. The working expenses for the year amounted to Rs. 3,15,856 as compared with Rs. 4,10,809 in the previous year. The amount of loan outstanding on the 1st April 1929 was Rs. 21,87,141.

Traffic

The number of vessels that entered the port was 963 of a total net tonnage of 1,177,266 as against 955 vessels of 1,054,625 tons in the previous year. The increase was due to an increase in the number of steamers calling at the port. The total value of the trade of the port during the year was Rs. 11,86,36,199, an increase of about Rs. 55 lakhs as compared with the previous year.

Imports and exports

The total tonnage of imports and exports during the year was 467,823 tons (imports 324,593 tons and exports 143,230 tons) as compared with 493,866 tons in the previous year. Rupees 2,46,894 were collected as dues on imports and Rs. 1,37,647 on exports. The principal imports were grain, piecegoods, kerosene oil, coal, machinery, gunnies and raw silk. As compared with the previous

year there was a decrease in the quantities of coal, cotton, railway materials and machinery landed. The principal exports were grains, tea, raw cotton and cotton yarn. The quantity of Government salt exported was nearly double that of the previous year.

Works

The dry dock was completed and brought into use. The report of the Committee of Engineers on the question of the Tuticorin Harbour development was received during the year. A new goods-shed and a new wharf were constructed and electric lighting of the foreshore sheds and piers completed during the year. The causes of silting in the inner harbour were investigated and a report on the subject submitted to Government.

Tuticorin Port Fund

128. A sum of Rs. 1,50,253 was collected under port dues during the year. The receipts of the Port Fund amounted to Rs. 1,63,896 and the charges to Rs. 1,72,535 as compared with Rs. 1,47,014 and Rs. 1,33,140 in the previous year. A sum of Rs. 1 lakh was transferred from the balance of the Port Fund to the Port Trust Fund. The cash balance decreased from Rs. 37,385 at the beginning of the year to Rs. 28,746 at its close.

Vizagapatam Port

129. There was a considerable expansion in the trade of the Port during the year. Imports increased from 1,797 tons in 1927–28 to 4,106 tons in 1928–29 and exports from 39,966 to 72,875 tons. The principal increases of imports occurred in teakwood and tamarind; while the exports of manganese ore and groundnuts nearly doubled in quantity.

Port Department

Minor ports

130. The total value of the sea-borne trade of the minor ports in the Presidency (excluding Tuticorin), was Rs. 41·97 crores. 15,785 vessels with an aggregate tonnage of 7,270,757 entered the several outports (excepting Tuticorin and Vizagapatam) during the year. The total collection of port dues amounted to Rs. 6·88 lakhs.

Various works were executed during the year by civil officers and by the Public Works and the Harbour Engineer-in-Chief's Departments. Three dredgers were at work at Cocanada, two at Negapatam and one each at Cuddalore and Mangalore during the year.

The total number of wrecks and casualties reported from outports (excepting Tuticorin and Vizagapatam) was 16 as against 12 in the previous year.

The ordinary receipts of the Port and Marine Funds during the year amounted to Rs. 25,33,196 and the ordinary charges to Rs. 23,20,729.

MORTALITY FROM WILD ANIMALS AND SNAKES (1928)

[*Annual statement of the mortality caused by wild animals and snakes and the measures adopted for the destruction of wild animals during the calendar year 1928*]

131. The number of persons killed by wild animals during the year was 416 as compared with 487 in the previous year. The largest number of deaths occurred as usual in the Ganjām and Vizagapatam districts and were caused by tigers. **Mortality Wild animals**

The number of persons who died from snake-bite was 1,054 as against 1,058 in the previous year. There were over 100 deaths from snake-bite in each of the districts of Malabar and Tanjore. **Snakes**

132. The number of animals destroyed decreased slightly from 464 in 1927 to 440 in the year under report. Of the animals destroyed, 75 were tigers and 365 were leopards, panthers and cheetas. Rewards amounting to Rs. 9,270 were paid for destruction of these animals as compared with Rs. 9,966 in the previous year. **Destruction and rewards**

ARMS, EXPLOSIVES AND SULPHUR LICENCES (1928)

[*Report on the working of the Indian Arms and Explosives Acts and on the transactions in sulphur*]

133. The number of licences in force during 1928 under the Indian Arms Act was 73,712 as compared with 72,946 in the previous year. These licences covered the possession of 1,935 rifled arms, 65,405 smooth-bore guns, 4,828 revolvers and pistols and 1,982 weapons of other descriptions. Most of **Arms Act**

these licences were for the possession of arms and ammunition and for going armed either for sport, protection or display (55,990), or for the destruction of wild animals that do injury to crops or cattle (16,510). The remaining licences were mostly for the transport or sale of arms, ammunition or military stores.

Explosives Act

134. The number of licences issued during the year under the Explosives Act was 12,111 as compared with 14,329 in the previous year. Most of these licences were issued in the districts of Coimbatore, Madura and Trichinopoly. Of these licences 7,746 were for the possession of gunpowder or other explosives required for blasting purposes and 2,459 for the possession and sale of explosives.

Prosecutions

There has been a progressive decline in the number of offences under the Arms and the Explosives Acts. The number of prosecutions instituted during the year was 430 as compared with 485 and 669 respectively in 1927 and 1926. Three hundred and sixty-four ended in conviction. The largest number of prosecutions (59) was in the district of Salem.

Sulphur

135. Three hundred and sixty (315 old and 45 new) sulphur licences were in force in the year under report as compared with 332 in the previous year. There was an increase in the total quantity of sulphur for which licences were issued from 981 tons in 1927 to 1,037 tons in 1928.

CHAPTER IV

PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION

AGRICULTURE (1928-29)

[*Report on the operations of the Department of Agriculture for the year 1928–29; Statistical Abstract for British India—Agricultural Statistics*]

General

136. The outstanding event of the year was the publication of the report of the Royal Commission on Agriculture. A Provincial Agricultural Advisory Committee was formed with His Excellency the Governor as Chairman, whose function is, among others, to formulate specific proposals for putting into force such of the recommendations of the Commission as apply directly to this Presidency. Considerable progress has been made in the work of the Committee. A detailed scheme of reorganization and progressive development of the department was submitted to Government by the Director of Agriculture and the recommendations of the Royal Commission were as far as possible incorporated in the scheme. Government have generally approved these proposals and have provided funds in the budget for 1929–30 for giving effect to some of them. Another feature of the year was the addition to the staff of a research engineer to test agricultural implements and to design new ones.

Agricultural education

137. That there is a growing demand for collegiate education in agriculture is clear from the fact that there were 307 applications for admission to the Agricultural College, Coimbatore, although only 41 were admitted. The system of separating teaching from research was further developed during the year under review, but at the same time the students were given facilities

for seeing what was going on in the Research Institute and the research officers delivered lectures on their special subjects to the students of the college. Some members of the teaching staff also carried out some research. The results of the examinations for the degree of B.Sc. in Agriculture were very satisfactory. Only one middle school, that at Taliparamba, continued to function during the year. A good practical course in agriculture is taught in the school. A new building to house the elementary school at the Agricultural College was constructed during the year. Classes for juvenile and adult labourers continued to be held during the year at the Central Farm, Coimbatore, and the agricultural stations at Palur and Anakapalle.

Research

138. The fundamental problems underlying the practice of agriculture, of crop pests and diseases and the improvement of existing crops by hybridization and selection continued to be studied by specialists at Coimbatore, and the agricultural experimental stations were used to test the improved strains and compare them with one another and with local varieties and to test manures of various kinds on different crops under different conditions of spacing and so on. There were during the year 31 such stations in the Presidency, some of them designed for studying general farm problems and the others specializing in the study of some particular crop. The research work was as usual concentrated on paddy and cotton, but other crops such as sugarcane, dry grains, potatoes and coconuts also received attention.

Paddy

The study of paddy was carried on in the four breeding stations of which the main one is at Coimbatore and is of two kinds, economic and academic. The economic side is concerned not only with the multiplication and trial of the improved strains produced by selection, but also with experiments in improved methods of cultivation and manuring. Rice being the staple food of the majority of the population, investigations were made into the nutritive value of different varieties of paddy and the effects of operations

such as pounding, milling and boiling. The academic side was mainly devoted to the evolving of a strain which will resist *piricularia*, familiarly known as the "blast" disease. Other problems such as producing resistance to salinity, improving and reducing the size of grains were also studied. The superiority of the strains evolved by the department is recognized by the ryots and it has been found difficult to meet the full demands for seed from the ryot population. One hundred and fifty-nine tons of seed were distributed by the department during the year under report. Besides the ryots produced and distributed among themselves, under departmental supervision, large quantities of seed of improved strains in some tracts, while in others co-operative societies were formed for the purpose.

Cotton

Research work on cotton was as usual concerned with the production of better strains of cotton suited to different localities. Both the irrigated and rain-fed varieties were dealt with. The question of the best time for sowing cotton was further investigated and the results were distinctly in favour of the earlier sowing. Four hundred and forty tons of seed of improved varieties were distributed by the department during the year.

The Cotton Transport Act continued to be in force during the year. In view of the strong opposition of the traders, two of the three protected areas were combined into one comprising eleven districts. There was no change in the northern and western protected area.

Manure

Investigations into the usefulness of different kinds of manure continued to engage the attention of the Chemical section of the department. Departmental propaganda on the proper conservation of cattle manure is being continuously carried out. Artificial manures are gaining in popularity and to help the ryots in choosing from among the many now on the market a manure experiment station has been established to test the relative merits of different fertilizers. The demand for green-manure seeds is rapidly increasing and 106 tons were distributed by the department alone during the year.

Demonstration

139. The improvements in the methods of agriculture discovered in the research sections and tested on the experimental stations are taught to the ryots by demonstrations arranged on the lands of the cultivators themselves. A large number of such demonstration plots were arranged during the year and the demand for such demonstrations is increasing.

Agricultural exhibitions

140. One hundred and eighty-five agricultural exhibitions were held by the department during the year under report. The department participated in both the Fair at the People's Park in Madras and in the Health Exhibition. The second prize in the Health Exhibition was awarded to the Agricultural section. Another exhibition worthy of notice was one held at Udamalpet at which a number of firms dealing in implements and manures participated and engines, pumping plants, tractors and implements were shown at work.

The propaganda work of the department has been greatly facilitated by the addition of a travelling motor unit visiting villages with exhibits. Attendance at all the villages toured was good and the interest raised in the exhibits was followed by discussion and lantern lectures. The van has proved a great success and a second one was constructed at the end of the year.

Operations against pests and diseases

141. The Agricultural Pests and Diseases Act continued to be applied in the interest of the cotton crop in the whole of the Madura district and several taluks of the Salem, Trichinopoly and Coimbatore districts. The usual methods of dealing with the palm diseases in the Northern Circars were continued. There has been a remarkable decline in the number of diseased trees and trees which have had to be cut down in the East Gōdāvari district. The Pest Act continued to be applied in Malabar and South Kanara to the coconut caterpillar. The anti-smut campaign was continued in Coimbatore and Salem districts.

Livestock

142. The four cattle farms at Hosūr, Chintaladevi, Guntūr and Coimbatore continued during the year. The primary object of these farms is breeding, but in many cases improvement of milk

yield is also aimed at. There were in all 24 Government bulls at stud outside Madras as compared with 16 in the previous year. Eight bulls were maintained at the Veterinary College, Madras, and seven bulls in six veterinary hospitals in the mufassal for breeding purposes. Investigations into the nutritive value of different foodstuffs for farm animals were continued during the year.

Chemical section.

143. The co-operation and help of the Chemical section is necessary for almost all phases of the department's research work and the section is therefore becoming more and more important every year. Much of its work was the routine analysis of samples. Three thousand three hundred and nineteen samples were dealt with during the year as compared with 2,229 in the previous year. The soil survey of Malabar was completed and published. The best means of conserving moisture in the black cotton soils of the Ceded Districts, conversion of refuse material into manure, the use of green manure for paddy and plant nutrition were some of the subjects investigated in the section.

Finance

144. The expenditure of the department during the year amounted to Rs. 18·35 lakhs as against Rs. 17·67 lakhs in the previous year. The increase in expenditure was mainly due to the addition of more staff for the millet and paddy breeding stations and for the Entomological section, the purchase of motor exhibition vans and employment of additional agricultural demonstrators and demonstration maistris. The total receipts amounted to Rs. 3·05 lakhs as against Rs. 2·92 lakhs in the previous year. The increase was due to the sale of larger quantities of green manure and the produce of the new paddy-breeding station at Pattambi and the Central Cattle Farm at Hosūr.

CIVIL VETERINARY DEPARTMENT

[Administration Report of the Civil Veterinary Department for the year 1928-29]

General

145. The activities of the Veterinary department have steadily increased during the year under review. Eighteen new veterinary assistant surgeons were appointed during the year. Seven new dispensaries and one branch dispensary at Rayapuram were opened, and there were 103 Government veterinary institutions working at the end of the year. The total number of new cases admitted to veterinary institutions increased from 125,762 in 1927-28 to 137,022 in 1928-29, while the number of cases supplied with medicine but not brought to institutions was 7,877 as against 7,387 in the previous year.

Itinerating staff

146. The number of touring posts remained at 88 and some of these were vacant for varying periods for want of staff. The headquarters of the Touring Veterinary Assistant Surgeon, Narasapatam, was changed to Yellamanchilli. The total number of cases treated by the itinerating staff during the year was 49,147 of which 22,388 were non-contagious.

Diseases

147. The number of deaths from contagious diseases during the year was 170,936. This is more than double the figure (76,197) reached in the previous year which was the highest recorded since 1909-10. Ganjām and South Arcot districts suffered most. The total number of reports of contagious diseases received and attended to by the staff was 7,219 and 5,676, respectively, as compared with 4,534 and 3,811 in the previous year.

Rinderpest

Rinderpest was the main cause for the increased mortality of cattle. The total number of deaths from this disease was 129,583 as against 35,803 in the previous year. More than one-fourth of the total number of the deaths occurred in South Arcot district, while Anantapur, Ganjām, North Arcot, Malabar and Kurnool also suffered severely. There was a decrease in Kistna, Guntūr and Nellore districts and in Madras City. The

methods adopted to control the spread of the disease were the same as in the previous year. Towards the close of the year the serum-alone method of inoculation, which was widely used previously, was practically restricted to compulsory inoculations under the Madras Cattle Disease Act and the serum-simultaneous method was resorted to in a majority of cases as a more effective means of combating the disease. This method is becoming more popular with the ryots. The number of serum-alone inoculations decreased from 184,798 to 171,206, while the number by the serum-simultaneous method increased from 6,228 to 83,049. Government have sanctioned the creation of five additional circles to carry out serum-simultaneous inoculations on a large scale. Several annual and weekly cattle-fairs were closed, as the disease was raging in an epidemic form in several parts of the Presidency.

Other diseases

The other contagious diseases that continued to be severe during the year were *hæmorrhagic septicæmia*, anthrax, black-quarter and foot-and mouth disease, which accounted for 6,013, 7,002, 6,798 and 4,682 deaths respectively. The corresponding figures for the previous year were 5,252, 5,074, 6,776 and 2,792.

Miscellaneous

148. The Chemical Examiner examined the viscera of 88 animals and poison was detected in 34 cases.

The number of convictions under the Act for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals was 6,641 as against 8,594 in the previous year. The Trichinopoly and Coimbatore districts continued to show the highest number of convictions.

The Burdizzo's method of castration is gaining popularity and 9,480 castrations were performed by the veterinary staff during the year as compared with 8,521 in 1927–28.

Veterinary College

149. There were 98 students in the college on the 31st March 1929 as against 86 at the end of the previous year. The results of the examinations were satisfactory and 20 students passed the final examination. Six veterinary assistant surgeons of the Civil Veterinary department and three

students from the Federated Malay States attended the post-graduate course held from July to December. Out of these, six were successful and obtained the certificates issued by the college.

The number of cases treated in the college hospital was 3,201 as compared with 2,737 in the previous year.

The laboratory attached to the college continued to show satisfactory progress in all directions. The number of specimens received and examined during the year was more than double that of the previous year. Authenticated cases of tuberculosis in fowls were recorded for the first time in the Presidency as a result of the examination of morbid materials from two fowls received in the laboratory. The production of rinderpest virus at the college was started towards the close of the previous year and it was continued with the object of ensuring a regular supply of virus for carrying on the serum-simultaneous method of inoculations.

Finance

150. The expenditure of the department was Rs. 10·31 lakhs as compared with Rs. 8·34 lakhs in the previous year. The increase was mainly due to the general expansion of the department such as recruitment of new officers, opening of new circles and additional veterinary institutions and to the large indents for anti-rinderpest serum. The receipts of the department amounted to Rs. 26,729 as against Rs. 26,858 in the previous year.

FISHERIES (1928–29)

[*Administration Report of the Department of Fisheries for the year ending 30th June 1929*]

General

151. The Committee appointed by Government in June 1928 to examine the work of the department and report on the future policy to be adopted for its working and improvement carried on investigations at several important centres during the year and submitted a comprehensive report on all aspects of the work of the department in July 1929. Owing to the absence of any pearl fishery during the year and a poor fishing season on the

West Coast the expenditure exceeded the revenue by about rupees one lakh and a quarter.

Marine fisheries

The Cannery

152. Almost the entire stock in the Cannery at Chaliyam was disposed of during the year and the cannery was kept on with a skeleton staff pending the report of the Fisheries Committee.

Tanur Experimental Station

The operations of the Tanur Experimental Station were hindered by the absence of fish shoals, which usually visit the West Coast from September onwards and the station worked at a loss of Rs. 2,447 during the year. No experiments in oil refining and curing were done as sardines were scarce. Experiments were carried on with a view to ascertain the best cement for the construction of curing vats.

Private oil and guano factories

Owners of private oil and guano factories were also hard hit by the failure of the sardine fishery and only 193 factories, out of 282 licensed, worked during the year. The value of their output fell by nearly a third as compared with that of the previous season, which was itself a poor one.

Pearl and chank fisheries

Pearl oysters disappeared from the banks off Tinnevelly and Rāmnād coasts. The banks were divided into three groups and arrangements were made for inspecting them annually in rotation to search for spat-falls.

The 15 years' lease of the Rāmnād Chank Fishery expired on the 30th June 1928 and it was not renewed. Attention was therefore concentrated on the working of the Tuticorin Chank Fishery and unprecedented results were obtained. The chanks fished reached the record figure of 431,127 and realized a gross revenue of Rs. 1,68,920. The fishery off the Tanjore coast brought in a rental of Rs. 6,811 during the season under report. No attempts at systematic fishing were made for want of precise knowledge of the chank beds. The Government sanctioned during the year the investigation of the chank fishery beds off the Tanjore coast with a view to ascertain the position and extent of the chank beds and the economic possibilities of the chank and pearl fisheries off that coast. Investigations have commenced and a launch has been detailed on this work.

Fish-curing yards

The operations at the fish-curing yards in Nellore, Chingleput, Tanjore, Tinnevelly and Rāmnād were satisfactory while those of the yards in the Northern Circars, though better than the previous year, resulted in a loss of Rs. 14,466. This loss is partly attributed to the adverse effect of the floods in October and November 1928. As regards the West Coast, the operations in the yards in the Malabar district, especially those in the northern section, were poor owing to the failure of the fishing season. But the fish catches in South Kanara district were uniformly distributed throughout the season and the curing operations progressed satisfactorily. The improved methods of curing evolved at Tanur were demonstrated to the curers by departmental agencies at the Malpe fish-curing yard. During the year a sum of Rs. 4,31,937 was spent on the working of the yards in the Presidency and the revenue amounted to Rs. 3,99,558.

Deep-sea fishing experiments

The contract with the Assistant Director of Fisheries (Marine), which expired on 12th March 1929, was renewed for a further period of three years for continuing research and deep-sea fishing experiments with the trawler "Lady Goschen." During the year the trawler was engaged in conducting fishing experiments for nineteen weeks and she operated from six bases, Mangalore, Calicut, Cochin, Cape Comorin, Manapad and Tuticorin. Among the interesting observations made are the finding of many varieties of food fish in large quantities opposite Calicut in November and December and the variable nature of the bottom of the sea apparently due to the drift of mud and sand at a particular depth near Calicut. With a view to equip the vessel properly for conducting experiments and research, alterations and additions at a cost of Rs. 44,123 are being carried out at Bombay.

Marine Aquarium

There was a slight fall in the number of visitors to the Marine Aquarium at Madras with a corresponding decrease in receipts, mainly due to the heavy rainfall during Christmas and New Year season and on the Vaikunta Dwadasi day. The net profit during the year amounted to Rs. 1,273.

Owing to the absence of a sufficient stock of saleable oysters at Ennore and Pulicat there were no sales of oysters during the year and the question of concerting measures for the culture and proper exploitation of the beds in future is engaging the attention of the department. The backwaters near Ennore and Pulicat on the Buckingham Canal were reserved for oyster culture and brought under the control of the Department of Fisheries during the year. The portion of the Buckingham Canal comprising the extensive oyster beds at Gokulapalli was also transferred to the department temporarily for a period of two years. Oyster supply

Prawn investigations in the Collair lake were continued. Sardine and mackerel investigations were continued at West Hill Research Station, Calicut, and the work of collection and identification of the common food fishes in the Circars was carried on at Vizagapatam. At the laboratory attached to the Marine Aquarium, Madras, research was continued on the early stages of the edible oyster. The preliminary study of the important fisheries in the vicinity of the Krusadai Island has brought to light the existence of a large sardine fishery in Palk Bay. As the season is just the period when the sardine fishery stops in the West Coast, viz., May to September, the discovery has considerable economic possibilities. Research

153. The deep water fishing experiments in the Mopad reservoir were continued during the year with satisfactory results. The system of keeping fish alive until disposal inaugurated in the previous year was continued to the great satisfaction of the purchasers. During the year several waters were successfully stocked with young catla and all the four ponds at Præma Fish Farm with gourami. The inland section, which is concerned with the improvement of fish in fresh water tanks and rivers, earned a profit of Rs. 7,880, while it sustained a loss of Rs. 12,948 in the previous year. The improvement is mainly due to better seasonal conditions in certain districts of the Presidency. Inland pisciculture

154. The fishermen showed a continued interest in the spread of education on the West Coast and Socio-economic activities

the appreciable change in the educational qualifications of the students who seek admission to the Fisheries Training Institute, Calicut, indicates the spread of higher education in the fishing community. But they have not yet begun to realize the benefits of the co-operative movement. There are some signs of awakening of interest in Malabar but in South Kanara the progress of fishermen societies continues to be very unsatisfactory. A good deal of educative and social work was done in Malabar by the officers of the Fisheries department during the year.

Finance

155. The total expenditure of the department during the year was Rs. 8,62,836 and the revenue amounted to Rs. 7,42,744.

WEATHER AND CROPS

(FASLI 1338—1ST JULY 1928 TO 30TH JUNE 1929)

[*Season and Crop Report for fasli 1338; Statistical Abstract for British India—Agricultural Statistics*]

South-west monsoon

156. The south-west monsoon commenced on the West Coast on the 3rd June and with periodical breaks gave fairly heavy rains there till the end of August. In the Circars, the monsoon was late and was weak in parts in June and August, but the deficiency was made good by the rains in July and September. In the Deccan, the monsoon commenced in time and gave good rains except in September. In the other districts, the monsoon was weak till the last week of June, and gave good rains till the 16th July. The rainfall was generally poor afterwards except in the Carnatic and North Arcot. On the whole, the south-west monsoon was up to or above the average in the Circars, Deccan (Cuddapah excepted), Carnatic, and North Arcot, and below the average in the other districts, especially in Salem, Coimbatore, Trichinopoly, Madura and Tinnevelly.

Water-supply

Water-supply was generally sufficient except in the South and in parts of Bellary, Anantapur, Chittoor, Salem, Coimbatore and Malabar. Freshes

came down the Gōdāvari and Kistna rivers copiously from July. The Cauvery had sufficient supply to start with, but it became scanty during the cultivation months of August and September.

Sowings of early crops were generally satisfactory or above normal except in the South where they were restricted or below normal. The condition of early crops was generally fair except in parts of Salem, Coimbatore, Madura, and Tinnevelly which were affected by drought to some extent. Sowings

157. Before the north-east monsoon set in, fairly good rains were received in the first half of October except in Rāmnād and Tinnevelly. The north-east monsoon commenced feebly over the Madras Coast on the 16th October, became vigorous on the 20th, and brought copious rain to most districts in the Presidency till the 27th. A depression formed off the Coromandel Coast on the 20th. It developed into a storm on the 21st and moving north-westwards, crossed the coast near Masulipatam on the 22nd. Torrential rains fell for three days from the 21st over an area extending from Vizagapatam to Cocanada, causing severe floods and extensive damage to houses, roads, railways, and irrigation works. The monsoon practically came to a close thereafter in the Circars and Deccan (Cuddapah excepted). The rainfall in November, received mainly in the first fortnight, was defective in all districts except Madura, Rāmnād and Tinnevelly. In December, the monsoon was intermittently active on the Coromandel Coast till the 10th. A prolonged spell of dry weather then set in and continued till the 25th when the activity of the monsoon was stimulated by a bay storm which disappeared off the Coromandel Coast on the 29th, after causing widespread rain along the coast and local rain in the Central districts. The monsoon was up to or above the average except in the Deccan, Nellore, Chingleput and Malabar. North-east monsoon

Water-supply was generally sufficient except in parts of Bellary, Anantapur, Salem, Coimbatore and Rāmnād. Water-supply

134061

Sowings

Sowings of late crops were satisfactory in the Circars, Central, and Southern districts and restricted in the other districts, especially in the Deccan. There was a marked increase in the area under wet crops especially in the Circars.

The condition of late crops was generally fair. Standing crops in parts of Vizagapatam and East Gōdāvari were damaged by floods in October.

Rainfall in later season

158. Fairly widespread rain was received on the Coromandel Coast between the 7th and 9th January under the influence of a bay storm which crossed the coast near Madras on the 7th; dry weather prevailed afterwards except in the last week of the month in Ganjām and the South, where there were a few sporadic falls. Frequent thunder-showers occurred in the Presidency during the first nine days of February. In March, there were local thunder-showers in Tinnevelly and Malabar. There were scattered thunder-showers on many days, in April, especially in Salem, Coimbatore, and the South and on the West Coast. The rainfall in May was generally below the average outside Bellary, Anantapur, Rāmnād, and Tinnevelly.

Character of the season

159. The season for the Presidency as a whole may be called fairly satisfactory, especially in the Circars, Deccan, and Nellore. This is corroborated by the fact that both the area cropped and the net area sown were among the highest reported.

Remissions

160. Land revenue had to be remitted on a comparatively large scale in the less favoured parts of Anantapur (Rs. 1,72,900), Nellore, Chittoor (Rs. 1,77,809), and North Arcot (Rs. 3,03,202). Parts of Bellary having been hard hit the suspended revenue of fasli 1336 in the taluks of Bellary (Rs. 1,76,570) and Rayadrug (Rs. 5,989) was remitted while the collection of the dry assessment for fasli 1336 in the same taluks amounting to Rs. 69,253 was again postponed to fasli 1339. The collection of Rs. 1,48,165 of the dry assessment of fasli 1338 in the Bellary taluk was also similarly postponed.

Relief work

161. There were no relief operations under the Famine Code in the year.

HORTICULTURE (1928–29)

[*Report on the operations of the Department of Agriculture for the year 1928–29; Report of the Agri-Horticultural Society, Madras, for 1928–29*]

Government gardens

162. The Government Botanical Gardens at Ootacamund and Coonoor are becoming more and more popular and are very favourite public resorts. Though their value is mainly an æsthetic one, their economic side was not neglected. The conservatories contained many interesting plants and throughout the year there were many varieties in bloom. The sales of seeds, flowers and plants in the Botanical Gardens at Ootacamund and Coonoor realized Rs. 5,645 and Rs. 1,315, respectively, as compared with Rs. 4,847 and Rs. 895 in the previous year.

Agri-Horticultural Society, Madras

163. The gardens of the Madras Agri-Horticultural Society are situated in Teynampet, Madras. Plants, bulbs and seeds were received by exchange from various sources and were planted in the gardens. The nursery was extended and a portion was reserved for raising plants and for keeping stocks of special varieties. A greater part of the library was sold to the Andhra University and arrangements have been made with the Madras University to use the building for botanical research.

The Ninetieth Annual Exhibition of flowers, fruits and vegetables was held in the gardens of the society on the 19th and 20th January 1929.

FORESTS (1928–29)

[*Report on the administration of the Forest Department for the year 1928–29; Statistical Abstract for British India—Forests*]

General

164. The experimental work which has been going on for some time in the intensive exploitation of the evergreen forests, the finding of profitable markets for timbers which have hitherto been of low value and the use of saw mills has

not led to satisfactory results. The cost of log production in the evergreen areas is so high and the value of the common species so low that exploitation on the lines adopted is not paying. On the other hand a remunerative method of working forests on the slopes of steep hills by light selection felling, followed by the restocking of the gaps with valuable species, is being developed. The working of about 450 acres in the Silent Valley on these lines realized a profit of Rs. 40,000. The quantity of timber exploited and that of fuel removed from reserved forests, is increasing and there was a satisfactory increase in the gross and net revenue of the department during the year. Jungle tribes were as usual employed by the department and were afforded facilities for cultivation of reserve forests in some districts.

Exploitation

Working plans

165. The working plan for the deciduous forests of the Wynaad was completed and sanctioned and considerable progress was made in the revision of the plan for the Goomsur sal forests in Ganjām and in the preparation of plans for South Mangalore, for Chenat Nair, the Silent and Attapadi Valleys in Palghat and for the sandal-bearing areas of North Coimbatore. The Logging Engineer was engaged on two important projects, the collection of data in New Amarampalam and at Mount Stuart and also completed and submitted his data for the Someshwar forest in South Kanara. A number of working plans of less importance were prepared by District Forest Officers or Assistants working under the local Conservators in several districts.

Commercial undertakings

The total quantity of logs extracted from the Chenat Nair reserve forest during the year was 211,332 cubic feet as against 157,748 cubic feet in the previous year. The bulk of the timber extracted was used in the Olavakkot Saw Mill. Though the total cost of production of sawn timber decreased, it was much above the average selling price and on the whole the sawn-timber trading showed a loss of Rs. 67,873 and there was a further loss of Rs. 25,538 in box manufacture. It has therefore been decided to close the exploitation operations.

Exploitation operations in the Mount Stuart reserve, including the mill at Topslip, resulted in a loss of Rs. 24,662 and the mill has been ordered to be closed by 31st December 1929.

The total quantity of timber extracted from the Nilambur Valley was 298,224 cubic feet as against 210,823 cubic feet in the previous year. The sale of logs resulted in a profit of Rs. 73,707. The total profit from the Nilambur division forest amounted to Rs. 1,28,788 as against Rs. 1,94,387 in the previous year. The profits would have been greater had a greater portion of the timber been sold as logs. The operations in the Wynaad forests, including the Chedleth Mill, resulted in a profit of Rs. 1·18 lakhs as against Rs. 14,000 in the previous year. The Parappa Saw Mill also worked at a profit.

Railway sleepers

During the year 37,646 broad gauge and 18,048 metre gauge sleepers were sold to the railways as against 21,306 and 13,138 respectively in the previous year. The sales realized a sum of Rs. 3·72 lakhs as compared with Rs. 2 lakhs in the previous year.

Russellkonda Saw Mill

The mill was closed on 1st July 1928.

London agency

The appointment of Messrs. Peirce, Leslie & Co., as overseas agents for the sale of Madras timbers is under the consideration of Government.

Supply of produce

166. The total output of timber was 100,480 tons as compared with 96,520 tons in the previous year. Of the total output 38,600 tons were extracted by departmental agency and 50,240 tons by purchasers. There was a decrease in the outturn in the First Circle owing to the closure of the Russellkonda Saw Mill, but this was more than counterbalanced by increases elsewhere.

Timber

Fuel

3,141,200 tons of fuel were removed from reserve forests, of which 30,590 tons were by departmental agency. The increase in the output of the departmental agency was partly due to the felling of additional areas in Kurnool to meet the increasing demand for fuel.

Bamboo

The value of bamboos removed from the forests by all agencies during the year was Rs. 4·05 lakhs

as compared with Rs. 3·52 lakhs in the previous year.

Sandalwood

There was a rise in the price of sandalwood during the year and 566 tons were sold for Rs. 8·48 lakhs as compared with 677 tons for Rs. 9·24 lakhs in the previous year. There is still an inevitable overcutting in the sandalwood forests on account of the prevalence of the spike disease.

Grazing

167. 12·03 per cent of the forests managed by the Forest department was closed to grazing either throughout the year or for part of the year. Grazing permits were issued for 1,672,257 animals and 80,575 animals grazed free of charge as compared with 1,616,224 and 77,585 respectively in the previous year. In the forests under panchayat management grazing permits were issued for 1,054,093 animals and 2,481 animals were allowed free grazing.

Free grants

The estimated value of forest produce removed by free grantees and right-holders amounted to Rs. 1,25,840 as compared with Rs. 1,32,950 in the previous year. The decrease was due to the fact that in the previous year large free grants had been made in Nellore, Chittoor and most of the Ceded Districts for the reconstruction of houses damaged by the cyclone of 1927. Most of the free grants in the year under report were for rebuilding houses destroyed by fire.

Sylviculture

168. Progress is being made in the study of the regeneration of the evergreen forests.

Natural regeneration

Natural regeneration in the deciduous forests is on the whole fair, but conditions vary from place to place and attention is necessary to aid the processes of nature. Experiments on different methods of assisting natural regeneration are in progress in South Coimbatore, Upper Gōdāvari and Kurnool. Coppice regeneration was generally good and the work done in the Walayar forests to augment the natural regeneration of coppice has been successful.

Artificial regeneration

The method of raising teak in conjunction with field crops has failed in Nilambur and the experiments of mixing rosewood with teak in definite

patches in the Mount Stuart plantations had also to be abandoned. The artificial regeneration of clear-felled areas with teak was continued. The results of restocking the gaps made by selection fellings in the evergreens of the Silent Valley with Acrocarpus and Artocarpus were promising.

The tending of sandalwood received attention during the year. Tending

Useful research work is being done by the Indian Institute of Science to determine the cause of the spike disease in sandalwood, which has spread to new localities. The field experimental work in this connexion is conducted in North Salem. Research

169. About 36 square miles of reserve forest in Madura and the Nilgiris were disreserved, of which 17 square miles were assigned to planters. Two square miles in the Anantapur and Kurnool West divisions were disreserved for assignment to the depressed classes, and about 4 square miles of leased coffee estates on the Shevaroys for permanent assignment to the lessees. About 2 square miles were converted into reserve forest in Ganjām and Vizagapatam districts. Taking also the result of the rectification of areas into account, there was a net decrease of 40 square miles in the area of reserve forest which at the end of the year was 18,914 square miles. The area of reserve lands increased from 332 to 343 square miles. General administration

Settlement operations were in progress in respect of about 118 square miles. The selection of blocks for reservation in the Rampa Agency was continued during the year. Two blocks were notified under section 4 of the Madras Forest Act and proposals for the notification of eight more blocks were received.

A total length of 259 miles of boundaries was demarcated and the demarcation of 15,924 miles of boundary lines were kept in repair.

The chief new work of the year was the construction of a road from Chedleth to Chedleth Saw Mill. Eighty-one miles of new roads were laid and 1,827 miles of roads were repaired as Roads and communications

compared with 137 miles and 1,830 miles, respectively, in the previous year. The total expenditure on new works was Rs. 89,259 and on repairs Rs. 99,914.

Buildings

The total expenditure on buildings, including the construction of quarters for the district forest officers of Chittoor and Olavakkot, inspection sheds, range offices and rest-houses, amounted to Rs. 1·78 lakhs as against Rs. 3·05 lakhs in the previous year. The decrease is due to the fact that six residential buildings for district forest officers were completed in 1927-28.

Other works

A sum of Rs. 12,053 was spent in the construction and repair of wells, improvement of the water-supply in forests and the eradication of rank vegetation.

Live-stock

The number of elephants in the possession of the department at the beginning of the year was 112. During the year 32 elephants were captured, one was purchased and seven calves were born. Twenty elephants were sold, ten died, three were handed over to the Raja of Kollengode in accordance with the terms of a lease and one escaped. The number of elephants at the close of the year was therefore 118 valued at Rs. 2,79,334. Fifty-three buffaloes and bullocks valued at Rs. 4,748 were also in the possession of the department at the end of the year.

Breaches of the Forest Act

Twenty-four thousand, seven hundred and thirteen forest offences were reported during the year as compared with 25,976 in the previous year. Of these 4,108 cases were taken to court, 19,383 were compounded and 1,222 remained undetected. A sum of Rs. 1,74,381 was realized as compounding fees as compared with Rs. 1,84,468 in the previous year. There was a decrease in the number of offences falling under the three important heads "injury to forest by fire," "unauthorized fellings" and "unauthorized grazing."

Protection from fire

Experience has shown that early burning is not a satisfactory solution of the problem of protection from fire. Besides the difficulties of effective supervision and of carrying out the work efficiently in the short time available, the method

is expensive, and is principally confined to the burning of grass along outer boundaries and internal lines of communication. The area over which special fire protection, other than early burning, was attempted was 4,020 square miles of which an extent of 367 square miles was damaged by fire in spite of the precautions. The expenditure on special protection during the year was Rs. 32,342 or Rs. 8 per square mile. An amount of Rs. 2,933 was distributed as rewards.

Forest College

Twenty-six students passed out of the College in 1929, of whom seven were Madras Government stipendiary students. There were no failures. One student from the Central Provinces obtained honours and the remaining students secured higher standard certificates.

Vernacular training

Vernacular training schools for the technical instruction of the subordinate staff were held in four circles and the results were satisfactory.

Forest panchayats

The total area handed over to panchayats up to 31st March 1929 was 3,421 square miles. The work of organizing panchayats for all the areas reserved for panchayat management was completed, except for one reserved in the West Gōdāvari district. Proposals for the retransfer of this reserve to departmental management are under the consideration of Government. The working of the forest village system in Coimbatore was not satisfactory and it was abolished. The system is reported to have worked fairly satisfactorily in South Kanara.

Finance

170. The total revenue amounted to Rs. 58·94 lakhs as compared with Rs. 51·28 lakhs in the previous year and the expenditure to Rs. 45·85 lakhs as against Rs. 49·12 lakhs in 1927–28. The expenditure on works (including capital expenditure outside the commercial concerns) increased by Rs. 0·18 lakh, while that on establishments decreased by Rs. 0·54 lakh. There was also an increase in the expenditure in England by Rs. 0·29 lakh.

MINES AND QUARRIES (1928)

[*Report of the Director of Industries on the administration of Mines and Quarries for the year 1928; Statistical Abstract for British India—Mineral Production*]

Output

171. The principal minerals worked during the year were manganese in Vizagapatam and Bellary, magnesite in Salem, mica in Nellore and in small quantities in the Nilgiris and barytes in Kurnool. The North Anantapur Gold Mines at Vajrakarur having wound up its business from the 2nd August 1927, there was no concern coming under the purview of the Act operating in the district of Anantapur during the year. There was a considerable increase in the output of magnesite in Salem district. On the other hand the output during the year of manganese in Vizagapatam and Bellary districts, of mica in Nellore and the Nilgiris, of barytes in Kurnool and of asbestos in Cuddapah showed a decline as compared with the previous year. The decrease in the output of mica in the Nellore district, in spite of the increase in the number of mining concessions, was mainly due to unfavourable market conditions. The fall in the output of barytes in Kurnool was due to the closure of two mines in which the mineral did not occur in marketable quantities. The Mysore Development Syndicate was granted two leases for asbestos in the Cuddapah district, but did not commence operations on any considerable scale.

General condition of the employees

172. The general health of the employees continued to be satisfactory. Mines were free from epidemics during the year save for two deaths in the Nellore district from dysentery, which were suspected to be cases of cholera. Wages ranged from 2 annas a day for females employed in the Corundum mines in Salem district to Rs. 1-2-0 a day for skilled labour in the Cuddapah district. Some children employed in the Nellore district were paid As. 1-6 a day. Mines were inspected by various officers during the year. The relations between labourers and employers were generally satisfactory in all the districts.

Accidents

173. There were two accidents during the year under report, one in the Vizagapatam district

which was serious and the other in the Bellary district which proved fatal.

INDUSTRIES (1928–29)

[*Report of the Department of Industries for the year 1928–29; Statistical Abstract for British India—Industries*]

General

174. As usual the Industries department participated during the year in a number of agricultural and industrial exhibitions. Chiefly a representative range of soaps, inks and finished leather were exhibited. Wherever possible the working of the pumping and boring machinery and of improved textile appliances was also demonstrated for the benefit of the agriculturists and handloom weavers. The most important of all the exhibitions in which the department participated was the one held in connexion with the Park Fair and some of the latest instruments and machines evolved by the department were included in the engineering and textile exhibits. As a result of the publicity given at these exhibitions, the services of the department were requisitioned in an increasing measure by the public.

Loans

175. Sixteen applications for aid were received during the year of which nine were not pursued by the parties. Two loans aggregating Rs. 21,000 to the Salem Dye Works Syndicate and to the zamindars of Belgaum, for developing their pyrotechnic match factory, sanctioned in the previous year, were disbursed in the year under report. On the whole only a sum of Rs. 1,71,842 was disbursed out of a total allotment of Rs. 4 lakhs. The Bill to amend the State Aid to Industries Act, exempting small scale and cottage industries from the operation of sections 9, 10, 11 and 14 of the Act, was passed by the Legislative Council and suitable rules were issued making special provisions applicable to cottage industries and industrial enterprises with a capital outlay not exceeding Rs. 1,000; and it is hoped that the facilities for industrial development provided by the Act will be availed of to a larger extent by promoters of small industries.

Assistance to trade and industry

176. The assistance of the Bureau of Industrial and Commercial Information was sought in an increasing measure both by the public and the Government departments on various aspects of the commerce, trade and industry of the Presidency. The department continued to compile statistics relating to industries including statements of cotton, jute and woollen mills, planting products, mines and minerals, as also the fortnightly reports of wholesale prices of certain basic commodities at selected markets in several districts. Reports were sent as usual to the Director-General of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics about the condition of several firms and individuals and during the year arrangements were made for communicating to him, once a quarter, the retail prices of Indian-made matches. Information was freely exchanged with Trade Commissioners and Consuls and with the Indian Stores department.

Investigation

177. During the year the Government sanctioned the conduct of experiments at Topputturai in the Tanjore district with a view to develop coir industry on the East Coast. In connexion with the development of the lace and embroidery industry proposals were submitted to Government for appointing an agent in London and for setting up an organization at Madras to supply the agent with samples, to collect and inspect goods and to execute his orders. The results of the investigations made with a view to establish a factory for the manufacture of cement in the Madras Presidency were not encouraging. The survey of cottage industries in the Presidency was continued and completed before the end of the year under report. Preliminary reports of the Special Officer on the districts surveyed were published from time to time and action was taken on such of the proposals as affected only particular areas. The final report embodying the Special Officer's recommendations for the Presidency as a whole was received after the close of the year.

Condition of major industries

178. Fifty-eight prospecting licences and 36 mining leases were granted during the calendar year 1928. There are 22 cotton mills working in the Presidency and two new mills are under

construction. The general condition of the cotton spinning industry was normal, but the weaving mills experienced a poor demand for cloth although towards the close of the year some improvement was noticeable. There was a slight improvement in the condition of the hosiery industry, but markets for the better class of goods, excepting net work, are still restricted on account of severe Japanese competition. The quantity of tanned hides exported during 1928-29 was the largest recorded, except in the boom year 1919-20, but there were violent fluctuations in prices and many tanners suffered heavy losses as the greater part of the volume of trade transacted was not remunerative. Skin tanners had a fair but not a good year and there was a slight decrease in the exports of tanned skins owing to the falling off in the demand from the continent. The condition of the oil-milling industry was about the same as in the previous year and it is felt in some quarters that the prospects of crushing oil-seeds in India on any large scale cannot be improved unless the cost of freight to the central markets is reduced. The sugarcane crop was not as good as usual. This fact and the excessive rains early in the year had an adverse effect on the jaggery industry. The price of sugar was very low throughout the year and large quantities were imported from Java and the United Kingdom. The general condition of the tile industry in the Malabar district was satisfactory and some factories improved their output by the installation of up-to-date plant. The four jute mills are reported to have worked satisfactorily. The Malabar Match Manufacturing Company has imported new machinery from Sweden. The output of the factory is steadily increasing. A large factory for the manufacture of matches is being established a few miles from Madras. The industry as a whole appears to be in a prosperous condition and the value of imports of matches into the Presidency fell from Rs. 5·08 lakhs in 1927-28 to Rs. 2·54 lakhs in 1928-29. The activities of private soap factories increased and a number of new factories were opened in the Malabar district. The demand for fertilizers is steadily

growing and the railway rates on manures were considerably reduced during the year.

Government establishment

179. Although trade conditions during the year were unsatisfactory owing to the keen competition of foreign as well as indigenous soaps, the Kerala Soap Institute, Calicut, was able to hold its own and the sales increased in value from Rs. 1·82 lakhs in 1927–28 to Rs. 2·89 lakhs in the year under report. The increase was largely due to the orders from the Director of Contracts for the supply of soaps to the Military department. A satisfactory feature was that the sales to the general public increased from Rs. 1·76 lakhs to Rs. 1·94 lakhs. The scheme of apprenticeship inaugurated in the Institute during the previous year continued during the year under review and 13 apprentices, 12 for the main course and 1 for the advanced course, were admitted. The course of training is thoroughly practical and adapted to the requirements of men with small capital.

Owing to the accumulation of the stock of ink in the Government Industrial Institute, Madras, production was greatly restricted during the year. As the commercial manufacture of the inks of the Government Industrial Institute has sufficiently demonstrated the possibility of producing inks of good quality at competitive prices, Government decided to transfer a portion of the activities of the Institute to private agency and accordingly the assets of the Institute relating to the commercial manufacture of inks were transferred to a private firm, on the understanding that they should continue the manufacturing operations. The experiments in the manufacture of printer's ink were, however, continued under Government agency and the results of the experiments conducted were on the whole encouraging.

Weaving

The Textile section of the department has been endeavouring to organize the textile cottage industry and place it on a commercial basis. The development of this industry will not necessarily prejudice the power-loom industry as can be seen from the fact that, since the war, not only have cotton-weaving mills in India increased their

production of cloth, but the handlooms have also increased theirs by nearly 20 per cent per annum. A conference of non-official gentlemen was convened by Government to consider the lines of future progress and development of the Textile section. The conference made important recommendations and the orders thereon were published in March 1929. The Textile Institute at Madras continued to impart theoretical and practical instruction on modern textile practice. On the 31st March 1929 there were 52 students on the rolls, of whom 25 were undergoing training in the supervisor's course (intended for those who desire to become teachers in weaving schools and managers of weaving factories) and the rest in the artisan course (intended to train up competent craftsmen). Six peripatetic parties (five weaving and one dyeing) were at work during the year and continued to demonstrate to weavers, dyers and cloth printers the advantages of adopting new appliances and methods.

Sericulture

All efforts to check the fungus growth in the Coonoor Silk Farm were unsuccessful and the work of producing disease-free seed was transferred to Mathigiri in the Salem district. Experiments in cross-breeding were, however, continued at Coonoor. Rearers have obviously come to realize the advantages of testing seed and the number of layings tested by the Peripatetic Rearing Party was more than three times that of the previous year. The other activities of the party were, assisting rearers in starting private grainages to cope with the increasing demand for the supply of disease-free seed, improving the crude operators of reeling and training a number of intelligent rearers in the use of the microscope for testing moths. During the year a co-operative society was formed in a village to assist rearers in the joint purchase of microscopes and other rearing appliances.

Engineering branch

The Engineering branch continued to give general information and advice on engineering questions free of charge provided no local inspections were involved. The number of such applications

received rose from 214 in 1927–28 to 263 in the year under report. As a result of the reduction of fees for the service of the engineering branch effected in October 1927, the demand for the use of the departmental plants and other engineering services has greatly increased. Ninety-five plants with a capital value of Rs. 5½ lakhs were erected during the year on payment of a nominal fee of 2 per cent of the capital cost of the machinery installed. The compounding system, under which private plants are inspected and overhauled by the department three times a year for a fixed fee of Rs. 10 per annum, is growing in popularity and 597 plants were maintained by the department under this system as against 500 in the previous year. Seventeen loans aggregating Rs. 70,000 were sanctioned during the year to agriculturists for the installation of pumping machinery. Owing to the inadequacy of supplies in the springs in the Palar and the consequent difficulty of irrigating even the registered wet ayacut, several applications for loans for pumping installations had to be rejected in the North Arcot and Chittoor districts. Power drills of an improved type were indented for during the year to meet the growing demand for borings. An interesting feature of the boring operations was the tapping of artesian springs in the village of Kavanur in the South Arcot district. One of these is perhaps the largest so far tapped in India and gives a continuous discharge of 420 gallons per minute at about 20 feet from ground level. The survey of underground water-supplies in an area comprising 101 square miles in Bellary was continued during the year and considerable progress was made in the collection of data regarding underground water conditions in the area. The demand for the use of the pumping plants maintained by the department is steadily increasing and nine new pumping plants were purchased during the year. To cope with the all-round increase of work in the Industrial Engineering section an additional division was sanctioned at the close of the year. The workshops attended to 422 work orders during the year and

the value of the work turned out amounted to Rs. 1·67 lakhs as against 1·75 lakhs in the previous year.

Industrial education

180. The following five Government industrial schools continued to be maintained : the Government Trades School, the School of Arts and Crafts, the Government Industrial Institute, Madura, the Leather Trades Institute, Madras, and the Government Textile Institute. Two hundred and sixty-seven new students were admitted to the Madras Trades School and the total strength on the 31st March 1929 was 566 as compared with 425 on the 31st March 1928. Thirty-eight students were admitted to the mechanical engineering course and 70 to the electrical engineering course. The output of the workshops of the Madura Industrial Institute has been steadily rising for several years. The value of the output in 1928–29 was Rs. 82,537 as against Rs. 42,327 in the previous year. The Leather Trades Institute has not been attracting a sufficient number of students in recent years and in May 1928 the Government issued orders that no new students should be admitted for training in the Institute. The Institute however continued to give assistance and advice to tanners and to carry on research on behalf of the tanning industry. The number of pupils on the rolls on the 31st March 1929 in the School of Arts and Crafts was 501, of whom 20 were women. The average attendance during the year under report was 269 as compared with 261 in the previous year. There was a fall in expenditure from Rs. 67,618 to Rs. 59,881. There was again a considerable increase of receipts from sales. The number of students appearing for the technical examinations increased from 142 in 1927–28 to 178 in 1928–29. There was also an improvement in the percentage of passes.

The policy of encouraging industrial education by providing grants-in-aid for the building, equipment and maintenance of private industries was continued. The number of aided schools increased from 58 on the 31st March 1928 to 61 on the 31st March 1929 and a sum of Rs. 94,797 was distributed

to these institutions in the form of grants-in-aid. During the year one scholarship of the value of Rs. 60 per mensem tenable for a period of four years for any of the recognized courses provided at the Indian School of Mines, Dhanbad, was instituted. Four State technical scholarships tenable in the United Kingdom were awarded, bringing the total number of Madras scholars undergoing training in the United Kingdom at the end of the year to eight. Other scholarships awarded during the year were 2 to the Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore, and 7 to the Victoria Jubilee Technical Institute, Bombay. One of the latter was, however, made tenable at the Engineering College of the Benares Hindu University owing to the difficulty of securing admission to the electrical engineering course at Bombay. Besides 60 industrial scholarships were as usual awarded to pupils learning trades in various recognized institutions.

Finance

181. The net cost of the department was Rs. 12,48,414 as compared with Rs. 11,31,622 in the previous year.

Manufacture of quinine.

182. The three cinchona plantations at Anamalais, Naduvattam and Dodabetta worked as usual during the year. The block of about 230 acres planted during the year in the Anamalais is making satisfactory progress. Very promising results have been obtained from extensive seed selection in Naduvattam and the average quinine content of the bark during the year was 4·68 per cent, while it was only 2·18 per cent as recently as 1922. In all, 1,858 acres were under cinchona cultivation on the 31st March 1929. In the Quinine Factory the output was regulated on the basis of economic production and over 39,000 lb. of quinine were manufactured during the year. Various improvements were carried out to the Factory plant. The year's working realized a profit of Rs. 20,022.

MANUFACTURES (1928-29)

[*Report on the working of the Indian Factories Act, 1911, for the year 1928; Statement of cotton and jute mills in the Madras Presidency for the year 1928-29*]

Cotton and jute mills

183. During the year 22 cotton mills were at work in the Presidency as compared with 21 in the previous year. One mill has not been working for the past 4½ years. The total number of persons employed in the various mills was 31,557, of whom 21,516 were men, 6,209 women and 3,832 children. The total number of spindles and looms in the mills increased from 639,590 and 4,668 in the previous year to 669,664 and 4,933 respectively in the year under review. As in the previous year, there were four jute mills at work. The average number of persons employed per day was 5,915 as compared with 5,624 in the previous year.

Other industries

184. At the close of the year 1928, the number of factories, other than cotton and jute mills, in the Madras Presidency governed by the Amended Indian Factories Act, was 1,065 of which 962 were perennial and 103 seasonal, the corresponding figures for the year 1927 being 921 and 70 respectively. The average daily number of operatives employed in the factories was 80,300 as against 79,211 in the previous year, the increase being due to the increase in the number of factories. The following table shows the principal industries carried on at the various factories and the number of persons employed:—

Classes of factories.	Persons employed.
Railway workshops	16,858
Rice mills	15,994
Brick and tile factories	6,346
Printing presses	4,366
Coffee works	3,495
Rope works	2,682
Sugar factories	2,649
Tea factories	2,532
Tobacco factories	2,354
Kerosene tinning and packing works ...	1,854
Leather work and tanneries	1,834
General engineering works	1,726
Coach-building and motor-repairing works.	1,253
Bone, manure and oil mills	1,166
Metal works	611

Classes of factories.	Persons employed.
Saw mills	597
Tramway works	554
Foundries (iron and brass)	509
Jewellery workshops	478
Aluminium works	401

New industrial undertakings

Of the 70 new companies registered during 1928-29, nearly 53 per cent were trading and industrial concerns, 34 per cent insurance, transport and miscellaneous companies, and 13 per cent banking and loan companies. Among the new registrations may be mentioned four cotton mills, one paper mill, one oil mill, one bone mill and a leather factory.

Factories (1928)

General

185. At the close of the year 1928, the number of factories in the Madras Presidency, coming under the operation of the Indian Factories Act, was 1,480, an increase of 99 over that of the previous year. Of these 1,059 were perennial and 421 seasonal. Ninety-seven of the perennial and 318 of the seasonal factories were connected with the cotton industry. Eighty-seven factories were not worked during the year. The average daily number of operatives employed in the 1,393 factories at work, was 136,973 as against 134,074 during the previous year. As usual, textile factories, including cotton and jute mills provided employment to the largest number. The number of women employed during the year was 32,095 as against 30,860 in 1927. The increase is due to the increase in the number of factories, many of which were of a seasonal character which employed women in large numbers. Four thousand and ninety-one boys and 2,275 girls were employed as against 4,253 and 2,455 respectively in the previous year. This decrease is due to the employment of adults in preference to juveniles as a result of the rigid enforcement of the provisions of the Act in respect of child labour. The system of requiring certificates of age and physical fitness in the case of juveniles worked satisfactorily on the whole ; in all 7,159 certificates were issued.

Inspections

During the year 2,916 inspections were made. In addition 58 surprise visits, 146 night visits and 190 visits on Sundays were made to see if the provisions of the Act were duly observed.

Health

The health of the operatives was generally good. The dispensaries and the medical aid already provided in factories were continued and in addition a hospital was established in the Engineering Works at Mettur. The sanitary arrangements of the factories were fairly satisfactory and orders issued for improving the sanitary conditions were promptly carried out by the managers.

Wages

As compared with the previous year there was an increase in the wages paid for skilled labour in eleven cases and a decrease in nine cases. In unskilled labour there was an increase in three cases and decrease in two cases. Daily wages for male skilled labour ranged from As. 7–6 for cotton spinners to Rs. 1–12–9 for engine-drivers, and for unskilled labour from As. 7–3 to As. 11–9 for men and from As. 4–8 to As. 6–2 for women.

Strikes

There were seven strikes during the year as against 26 in the previous year. Of these two were in Madras, two in Malabar, two in West Gōdāvari and one in North Arcot. In four cases the cause of the strike was a demand for higher wages, one was due to a demand for increased output of work, one to stoppage of annual presentation of clothes and the other to an increase in the number of working hours. The total strength of the factories affected was 2,959 of which the number that actually struck work was 2,335. There was besides a brief strike in the Choolai Mills, Madras, which was settled by a reference to an expert committee. There was also a general strike which extended much beyond ordinary factory limits on the South Indian Railway.

Fires

The number of cases of fire during the year was 17. There was no loss of life or injury to person. The estimated cost of the damage was Rs. 8·57 lakhs of which only a sum of Rs. 3·65 lakhs was covered by insurance.

Accidents

There were 1,358 accidents during the year as against 1,233 in the previous year. Of these 12 proved fatal and 258 were classed as serious. But the majority of the latter were classed as serious because the injured persons stayed away from work for a period of 21 days or more and only 57 resulted in serious bodily injury. Six of the fatal

and 102 of the serious accidents were caused by machinery moved by mechanical power. The majority of the accidents, as usual, occurred in railway workshops. Careful measures are being taken to educate the men in ordinary prudence.

Prosecutions

One hundred persons concerned in the management of 87 factories were prosecuted during the year for infringement of the provisions of the Factories Act and the rules and notifications issued thereunder.

Welfare work

The welfare measures already instituted in several factories were continued. In addition 20 factories provided housing accommodation for the operatives during the year and two established schools for the education of children and other employees. In a factory in the Vizagapatam district there is a committee representing the employers and the employed to consider the grievances of the workers.

LABOUR AND DEPRESSED CLASSES (1928–29)

[*Report on the administration of the Labour Department for the year 1928–29*]

General

186. The work of the Labour department was continued on the same lines as in previous years. The opposition of the caste ryots to the ameliorative work done by the department has, in most districts, greatly diminished and considerable progress was made in bettering the conditions of the depressed classes. In many districts, however, the organization of the co-operative societies has not been proceeding on satisfactory lines and the thrift side of the movement has been almost entirely neglected. This coupled with the inadequacy of the supervising staff has resulted in heavy overdues to the financing banks. Government have sanctioned the strengthening of the inspecting staff and it is hoped that closer supervision will lead to an all-round improvement in the work of the societies.

Labour unions

187. On the 31st March 1929 there were ten registered trade unions, one of which is practically

defunct. Most of the unregistered unions and one or two of the registered ones have come into prominence only when labour troubles were impending. At other times they appear to have been dormant. Few of them are on a stable or satisfactory financial footing.

Labour disputes.

The most important event of the year was the extensive and violent strike on the South Indian Railway, as a result of the concentration of the workshops at Golden Rock and the consequent reduction of labour and the introduction of improved machinery and methods. Strikes were threatened at intervals in the Choolai Mills, Madras. The men actually went on strike for one day but owing to the appointment of a committee and the adoption of most of their recommendations tranquillity was on the whole maintained in the mills during the year. About 2,000 men in the Chittivalsa Jute Mills in Vizagapatam district went on strike on 17th January 1929, their chief demand being the grant of a half-yearly bonus of 10 per cent of their wages. As a result of the negotiations conducted by a local union of the strikers various concessions were given including a 10 per cent increase of wages where the pay did not exceed Rs. 10 to Rs. 12 per mensem and the strike came to an end on 4th March 1929. The scavengers of the Mangalore Municipality, the men in the Commonwealth Weaving Factory, Cannanore, and the labourers in the Thangal Tanneries went on strike for a few days in the year demanding higher wages. About 300 scavengers of the Madras Corporation struck work for a day as a protest against the introduction of the central muster system. The Commissioner of the Corporation and the Health Officer persuaded them to return to work unconditionally.

Depressed classes

188. During the year the special staff of the Labour department was working in 14 districts and in the Madras City. The Honorary District Labour Officer of Malabar died on 18th June 1928 and after his death the work was attended to by a Tahsildar in addition to his other duties. In most of the districts the activities of the labour staff

were, as usual, confined to a few taluks at a time, fresh ones being taken up when the work in the earlier taluks was finished. In three districts, however, the work was spread to all the taluks. The provision of house-sites, assignment of waste lands for cultivation, lease of lanka lands, organization of co-operative societies, establishment of schools, grant of scholarships, sinking of wells, repairing ponds, provision of pathways, burial grounds, latrines and other sanitary improvements continued to be the measures chiefly adopted for the amelioration of the conditions of the depressed classes.

House-sites

An extent of 640·33 acres of Government land was assigned for the benefit of 3,170 families for the construction of house-sites during the year. Where private lands had to be acquired applicants were required to make an initial deposit and the balance was advanced by Government and recovered in easy instalments. The total extent of land so acquired during the year was 166·10 acres at a cost of Rs. 95,073 and 2,926 house-sites were provided.

Co-operation

One hundred and forty societies were organized and registered during the year. Two societies were transferred from the Co-operative department, 22 were wound up and three were transferred to other departments. There were in all 1,652 societies in charge of the Labour department at the close of the year and 125 were pending registration. Co-operative societies were organized chiefly for (1) acquisition of land for house-sites, (2) grant of loans for agricultural purposes, (3) flood relief, (4) providing rural credit and (5) collective bargaining. The first three classes of societies were as usual financed by Government and the others depended on co-operative banks, chiefly the Christian Central Co-operative Bank, Madras, for finance. Fishing rights were leased to some co-operative societies in the districts of Tanjore and Kistna. Sixty-seven co-operative societies were given leases of lanka lands measuring 7,069 acres in the districts of Guntūr and East Gōdāvari. Large extents of disafforested areas were also

assigned to co-operative societies in the South Arcot, Guntūr and Trichinopoly districts.

Education

As in previous years the educational activities for the benefit of the depressed classes consisted of (1) securing admission for depressed class pupils in the existing local board or aided schools and where this was not practicable, opening of separate elementary schools, (2) maintenance of hostels and the payment of boarding grants, (3) grant of scholarships and stipends and exemptions from payment of examination fees and (4) grant of subsidies to philanthropic bodies interested in the educational uplift of the depressed classes. There were 1,178 schools at the beginning of the year. Two hundred and fifty-four new schools were opened during the year as compared with 271 in the previous year. Twenty-seven were closed. There were thus 1,405 schools working at the close of the year with a strength of 42,091 boys and 7,904 girls. Of the total number of schools 64 were night schools, 90 were combined day and night schools and the rest day schools. Seventy-five per cent of the teachers employed were trained. Fifty-five new school sheds or buildings were constructed and 92 old ones repaired. The total expenditure on education of the depressed classes during the year was Rs. 4·65 lakhs.

Assignment of land

Forty thousand eight hundred and sixty-nine acres of land were assigned during the year to members of the depressed classes as compared with 31,027 acres in the previous year. This brought the total extent of land so far assigned to the depressed classes to 278,096 acres.

General ameliorative work

A sum of Rs. 4·39 lakhs was spent during the year on general ameliorative work. The major portion of this amount was as usual spent on the construction and repair of wells. The balance was spent on the provision of pathways, latrines, burial and burning grounds, acquisition of house-sites, construction and repair of school sheds, raising the level of house-sites and other purposes for the welfare of the depressed classes. In taluks and districts in which the special staff was not working, the Revenue department undertook,

in urgent cases, the provision of drinking water facilities and similar works.

Criminal tribes

189. The work connected with the reclamation of criminal tribes is supervised by the Labour department.

Criminal settlements

190. There was no change in the management of the settlements during the year. The members of the Perambur Settlement, with a few exceptions, are now regularly employed in the adjoining mills or under the Corporation of Madras and are making an honest living. The settlement was therefore abolished. The total population in the other six settlements on the 31st of March 1929 was 6,157. Agriculture is the main occupation of the settlers, but industries such as weaving and carpet-making have also been started as subsidiary occupations. The settlement at Pallavaram is mainly an industrial one and most of the settlers were employed in sandal making. The principal source of livelihood of the Stuartpuram settlers is work in the Tobacco Factory of Chirala. The health of the settlers was generally good. In each of the settlements there is a school, attendance at which is compulsory for all children of school-going age. The Industrial School for boys at Perambur was abolished and the Industrial School for girls at Nellore is making good progress.

Reclamation of Kallars

191. The Kallar panchayats in the districts of Madura and Rāmnād continued to do useful work by reporting and assisting the police in the detection of crime. Seven new co-operative societies were registered during the year bringing the total number to 270. Six new schools were opened. At the end of the year there were 354 schools with a strength of 12,350 boys and 2,305 girls. Every effort is made to popularize these schools and improve the attendance. Vocational training in weaving, carpentry, tailoring, mat-making and agriculture was, as usual, given at the several boarding schools. Five troops for Boy Scouts, and three for Girl Guides and Blue Birds were organized during the year, bringing the total number of troops to 20. There were ten industrial centres attached to the Reclamation department. Land

to the extent of 333 acres was assigned to the Kallars on darkhast during the year and sums of Rs. 11,470 and Rs. 18,960 were granted as loans under the Agriculturists' Loans Act and Land Improvements Loans Act, respectively.

In Tanjore nine new panchayats were formed bringing the total number of panchayats at the end of the year to 250. Twenty co-operative societies were started and 14 new schools were opened during the year. That the Kallars are anxious to avail themselves of the facilities afforded for elementary education is clear from the fact that the number on the rolls in all schools at the end of the year was 4,777 as against 4,000 in the previous year. Two scout troops were formed from among the boarders in the Kallar Hostel and gave an excellent display on the occasion of the visit of His Excellency the Governor to Tanjore.

Criminal Tribes Act

192. Sections 3 and 10 of the Criminal Tribes Act were applied to 11 tribes in 9 districts and the movements of 5 tribes were restricted under section 11 of the Act. Three thousand and twenty-seven persons were registered during the year and 3,516 were removed from the registers for good conduct and other causes. At the end of the year the total number of persons registered under the Act excluding the Kallars of Tanjore but including the persons confined in settlements was 36,578 (30,917 males and 5,661 females). The provisions of the Act were worked with great consideration so as to avoid undue hardship to the members. The communal panchayat system is reported to be working well among the Dandasis and Panoes of Ganjām district and among the Donga Woddars of Cuddapah district.

SEA-BORNE TRADE (1928-29)

[*Report of the Sea-borne Trade of the Madras Presidency for the year 1928–29; Annual volume of the Sea-borne Trade and Navigation of the Madras Presidency; Statistical Abstract for British India—Foreign Trade and Shipping; Review of the Trade of India; Accounts relating to the Sea-borne Trade of British India; Annual Statement of the Foreign Sea-borne Trade and Navigation of British India, 2 vols.; Annual Statement of the Coasting Trade and Navigation of British India*]

General summary

193. The aggregate value of the sea-borne trade was Rs. 115·22 crores or 8 per cent over that of the previous year. Government transactions accounted for Rs. 51·16 lakhs. The total value of foreign trade in private merchandise and treasure increased by 14 per cent to Rs. 81·93 crores. Imports showed an increase of 29 per cent and exports of 5 per cent as compared with the previous year.

Foreign trade

Imports

194. The total value of foreign imports of private merchandise, excluding treasure, was Rs. 27·59 crores. The increase of 3·93 crores in the value is chiefly due to larger imports of grain, pulse and flour, cotton piece-goods, mineral oils, cotton twist and yarn, manures, provisions, tobacco, machinery and mill work, dyeing and tanning substances and artificial silk. Prices of paddy and rice were low in Indo-China and Siam as the political disturbances in China put a stop to the exports to that country. Cheap freights were offered from Saigon and Bangkok. Owing to the extension of groundnut cultivation there has been a decrease in the cultivation of food-grains in this Presidency. These causes account for the increase of 145 lakhs in the imports of grain, pulse and flour. The total imports of cotton piece-goods increased by 22 per cent to Rs. 274 lakhs mainly due to the stability in prices of raw cotton, the steady exchange, and the labour troubles in Bombay. The ryots in this Presidency have begun to appreciate the use of chemical manures for agricultural purposes and the quantity and value of the manures received more than doubled as compared with the previous year, and

amounted to 27,906 tons valued at Rs. 34·16 lakhs. Imports of oils, consisting almost entirely of mineral oils, rose by 43·65 lakhs to Rs. 193·2 lakhs. Imports of solidified vegetable oils or vegetable ghee increased from 9·48 lakhs to Rs. 19·84 lakhs. This product is extensively used in sweetmeat bazaars as a substitute for ghee and, it is believed, for adulteration with the animal ghee also. The total value of imports of machinery and mill works was Rs. 235·59 lakhs, an increase of 7 per cent. The increase is most marked under electrical machinery, due to numerous projects for the supply of electrical power in this Presidency. The growth of the tanning industry and the local dyeing processes accounts for the increase in the imports of tanning and dyeing substances, the value of which amounted to Rs. 61·03 lakhs. The increase of over 10 lakhs in the value of artificial silk yarn imported is chiefly due to the increasing popularity of artificial silk sarees manufactured locally. The imports of unmanufactured tobacco increased from Rs. 17·78 lakhs to Rs. 29·96 lakhs due to the increased consumption of cheap cigarettes. On the other hand there was a heavy decrease of about Rs. 102 lakhs in the value of iron and steel imported. This is partly due to the completion of the railway works in Southern India, for which unusually large quantities were indented for in 1927–28 and partly to the local supply by the Tata Iron and Steel Works.

Exports

The total value of exports to foreign countries was Rs. 46·30 crores, an increase of Rs. 2·40 crores as compared with the previous year. The increase occurred mainly, under seeds, raw cotton, tanned hides, tea and tobacco. Seeds showed a total value of Rs. 15·15 crores, an increase of Rs. 2·58 crores, due to larger shipments of groundnut seeds consequent on (1) the larger area of groundnut cultivation, (2) greater yield, and (3) fair prices in recent years. Exports of raw cotton increased by 6,406 tons in quantity and Rs. 88 lakhs in value, partly due to the higher prices for American cotton. Shipments of tanned hides advanced by 975 tons in weight and by Rs. 37·21 lakhs in value, consequent on the better demand

PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION

from the United Kingdom and the United States of America and steady rise in prices. The total quantity of tea exported in 1928–29 increased by 8 per cent to 49·32 million lb. and the value rose by Rs. 27·91 lakhs or 7 per cent to Rs. 419·08 lakhs, due to good demand from the United Kingdom combined with increased outturn of tea in new areas. Exports of leaf tobacco advanced by 4·24 million lb. to 15·31 million lb. in quantity and by Rs. 23·17 lakhs to Rs. 60·62 lakhs in value. There was better demand from foreign countries for Indian leaf, as it has considerably improved in quality after the development of tobacco cultivation in Guntūr and neighbouring districts.

Treasure

195. Imports of gold on private account increased from Rs. 232·27 lakhs to Rs. 758·84 lakhs. The increase was due to the larger demand for gold for jewellery and to the direct importation from Durban, instead of by rail from Bombay as had been the case till 1926–27. It is anticipated that imports on this higher scale will continue, as a regular bullion market has been established in Madras.

Coasting trade

196. The aggregate value of coasting trade in private merchandise decreased from Rs. 3,452 lakhs to Rs. 3,277 lakhs. Smaller imports of rice and paddy from Burma, twist and yarn from Bombay and raw cotton from Sind account for the decrease.

Trade by countries

197. About 55 per cent of the foreign trade of the Presidency was with the British Empire, the trade with the United Kingdom being 35 per cent of the trade with the British Empire. The remaining 45 per cent of the trade of the Presidency was principally with Germany, France, the United States of America, The Netherlands, Belgium, Italy, Indo-China, Japan and Java.

Trade by ports

198. The total trade of the Port of Madras increased in value by Rs. 4·29 crores or by nearly 9 per cent. The foreign trade increased by Rs. 4·89 crores while the coasting trade decreased by Rs. 59·71 lakhs. The value of the foreign trade of the subordinate ports was Rs. 31·38 crores of which the only ports which contributed more than one

crore were Tuticorin, Cocanada, Dhanushkodi, Negapatam and Cuddalore on the East Coast and Cochin, Calicut and Mangalore on the West Coast.

Shipping

Foreign trade

199. The total number of vessels entered and cleared rose from 3,046 to 3,068 and their tonnage from 4·67 millions to 5·05 millions. The average tonnage of British vessels was 3,161 and that of foreign vessels 4,020. British vessels accounted for 69 per cent of the whole tonnage and British Indian and native craft for 2 per cent. The tonnage of foreign vessels was 29 per cent of the whole.

PUBLIC WORKS

[*Administration Report of the Public Works Department, Madras Presidency, for the year 1928-29*]

Administrative changes

200. The revival of Tank Restoration Scheme divisions was an important feature of the year. Since these divisions were abolished in 1922 as a measure of retrenchment, the investigation work connected with tanks was entrusted to a special subdivision in each circle under the direction of the Superintending Engineer, while actual execution was transferred to the regular divisions. As it has not been found possible for the regular divisions to make satisfactory progress in the execution of repairs to tanks, the Government have sanctioned the creation, temporarily to the end of 1929-30 in the first instance, of one Tank Restoration Scheme division for each of the three circles—Bezwada, Madras and Trichinopoly. They have also sanctioned divisional, subdivisional and subordinate staff for the Waltair, Bezwada, Madras, Tanjore and Trichinopoly circles for the same period and directed that it should be employed almost exclusively on execution of works except in those districts where investigation is also backward.

The Parvatipur Agency subdivision, which was under the charge of the President, Agency District Board, Vizagapatam, was transferred to the Vizagapatam division in April 1928. The jurisdiction of the Vizagapatam division was considerably

extended owing to the taking over of the Agency roads, etc. Seven toll-gates on the Agency roads have been handed over to the Public Works department from 1st April 1928 and are being leased out by this department. The jurisdiction of the Koraput division was reduced by the transfer of the Malkanagiri taluk to the Narasapatam division and the division was made permanent from 1st November 1928. Eleven toll-gates were leased out during the year. The Headworks and Supply subdivision of the Gōdāvari Headworks division was abolished from 1st July 1928. A temporary division for investigation and execution of Tank Restoration Scheme works was formed in the Bezwada circle and a temporary subdivision with headquarters at Duggirala was formed in the Kistna Western division. A new division, named the Central Presidency division, and a new division for the investigation and execution of Tank Restoration Scheme works were constituted in the Madras circle. In the West Coast division, a portion of the Calicut-Vayittiri-Gūdalūr road was taken over from the District Board and entrusted to the Public Works department for carrying out special repairs. Three special subdivisions and a temporary division were formed in the Trichinopoly circle. The Coleroon Bridge division was converted into a subdivision in January 1929 and the subdivision itself was closed on 31st March 1929. In the Tanjore circle, the Special Irrigation division was closed on 22nd June 1928, as there was not sufficient work for it and a Special Investigation division for six months in the first instance was sanctioned to consider the feasibility of the extension of irrigation in the Salem district from the Mettur reservoir.

Chief Engineer's office (Buildings and roads)

Consulting Architect's and Deputy Consulting Architect's sections

201. The Consulting Architect's section was as usual engaged in preparing drawings and estimates for important buildings. Educational grant-in-aid cases amounting to Rs. 5·15 lakhs were dealt with by the Deputy Consulting Architect's section and a saving of Rs. 69,700 effected. Among the important schemes dealt with in the section were the Madras General Hospital Pathology block and Office of the Director of Public Instruction,

Madras. The value of works for which detailed drawings and estimates were prepared in the two sections was Rs. 48 lakhs. In addition approximate estimates were prepared for administrative purposes for various works amounting to Rs. 43 lakhs. Three hundred and forty drawings were produced during the year.

Technical section

In the Technical section, 338 estimates of the aggregate value of Rs. 275·66 lakhs were scrutinized during the year. Of these 198 estimates related to buildings, 13 to water-supply schemes, 11 to drainage schemes, 36 to bridges and causeways and 29 to roads. Among the estimates scrutinized there were 68 estimates each costing over a lakh of rupees. Two professional circulars of general interest were issued.

Electrical works

About 500 original works were in progress during the year. The total expenditure on original works during the year was Rs. 2,71,042 as against Rs. 1,81,094 in the previous year. The total value of the Government electric installations in charge of this department is estimated at Rs. 28,83,262 and the amount spent on their maintenance was Rs. 2,53,188 as against Rs. 1,62,630 in the previous year. The increase in the cost of maintenance is due to the renewal of certain old installations.

CIVIL WORKS (1928–29)

Works

202. The total expenditure on civil works for the year (works and repairs under all heads) including expenditure on deposit works but excluding irrigation works was Rs. 108·18 lakhs as compared with Rs. 117·45 lakhs in the previous year.

Buildings

The total expenditure on the King George Hospital at Vizagapatam was Rs. 9·74 lakhs against an estimated amount of Rs. 10·53 lakhs. The construction of an Ophthalmic block for the King George Hospital was the only major work done during the year. A sum of Rs. 4·03 lakhs was spent up to the end of the year on the

construction of a medical school and hospital buildings at Guntūr against an estimated amount of Rs. 9·10 lakhs. The construction of the hostel block was kept in abeyance. The construction of quarters for the Reserve Police at Ellore was in progress. All items of work relating to the additional block, Central Record Office, Madras, have been completed. The Court-house for the Court of Small Causes and extensions and improvements to the Secretariat Buildings and Council Chamber were in progress during this year also. Quarters for European sergeants and lines for head constables and constables of the A-1 and A-2 police stations at Madras and all items of work connected with the construction of quarters for the staff of the G-1 police station excepting sanitary fittings and water-supply arrangements were completed. Against an estimated cost of Rs. 2·56 lakhs for the construction of a science block in the Queen Mary's College for Women an expenditure of Rs. 1·44 lakhs was incurred up to the end of the year. The main building of the Court-house for the District Judge at Kurnool is rapidly approaching completion, and the construction of a combined Court-house for the District Munsif, Vayittiri, and the Sub-Judge, Calicut, is expected to be completed during 1929–30. Additions to the King Institute, Guindy, the Science Laboratory, Anantapur, and the Headquarters Hospital, Coimbatore, the construction of an out-patient department for the General Hospital, Madras, the Tuberculosis Jail, Bellary, the Court-house for the District Court, Anantapur, the Leper Settlement, Tirumani, and improvements to the spinning plant at the Central Jail, Coimbatore, were in progress during the year. The construction of quarters for the armed reserve police at Trichinopoly has been completed and the buildings handed over to the Police department. A start was made during the year in constructing a combined office for the Superintending Engineer and the Executive Engineer at Tanjore, quarters for the Superintending Engineer and a building with hostels and out-houses for the Government School for Masters at Cuddalore.

The Jeypore-Araku road has been connected with the Anantagiri Ghat road and the Taptapani pass converted into a metalled road and opened for traffic. The formation of a road from Kunnavaram to Ippur with a branch road from Bhimavaram to Jadikuppa has also been practically completed during the year. Roads and bridges

The old railway bridge over the Hagari river at Bellary was converted into a combined road and railway bridge. The Cauvery bridge at Trichinopoly has been reconstructed and opened for traffic. The other bridge works in progress were the construction of a bridge across the Kolab river and the Cauvery bridge at Sivasamudram.

The Bellary water-supply scheme has been nearly completed. The water-supply schemes of Ellore, Palacole, Coimbatore and Tuticorin continued to be in progress during the year. The Chingleput water-supply scheme except the erection of a gas plant and the Madura drainage scheme have been completed and handed over to the respective municipalities. Water-supply and drainage schemes

203. The value of work done in the workshops of the Public Works department at Madras, Dowlaishweram and Bezwada was Rs. 6·68 lakhs as against 7·52 lakhs in the previous year. Workshops

ELECTRICITY (1928–29)

204. Throughout the Presidency there is a growing eagerness to initiate electric supply undertakings, both by local bodies and by private agencies. The number of towns with electric supply undertakings has increased by four, making a total of 16. As a preliminary to the Pykara scheme, the Government are constructing a small hydro-electric generating station utilizing a portion of the waters of the fall. This station will supply the energy required for the Pykara works during construction and also for the municipalities of Ootacamund and Coonoor. Besides licensed undertakings, there are many big industrial concerns having their own generating plant, the Development

largest being the South Indian Railway generating station at Golden Rock. A hydro-electric power station has been completed at Attakatti in Coimbatore district. Another private enterprise of some interest is the lighting up of the famous temples at Tirupati and Tirumalai and of the road and path seven miles in length between the two temples. Regular electric supply has commenced in Madura, and the full 24 hours' supply in Kanadukathan and several adjoining villages. Electric supply was continued and extended in Trichinopoly and commenced in Srirangam and Rajahmundry. Rapid progress in construction works was made in Calicut and Cocanada.

The technical advice of the Electrical Inspector has been freely sought by local and municipal bodies and a second supervisor had to be engaged now and again to cope with the increased consulting work. To encourage private engineers Government have raised the scale of fees to be charged to local bodies for advice by the Government Electrical Inspector.

Licences — New licences for the supply of electrical energy within the municipal limits of Kurnool and Hindupur were granted during the year and applications for supply to eight other towns were under the consideration of Government.

Accidents — There were 27 purely electrical accidents during the year, of which 12 were serious and eight proved fatal.

Boilers (1928–29)

205. The number of boilers inspected during the year was 1,888 as against 2,028 in the previous year. One thousand five hundred and ninety-two certificates were issued as compared with 1,442 in the previous year. In addition 151 cursory inspections were made. One hundred and six boilers were registered during the year ; 19 boilers were transferred to this Presidency. Renewal certificates of 26 boilers were refused and certificates granted for 17 were either revoked or suspended. In addition to the boilers examined

under the Indian Boilers Act, 1923, 12 boilers in floating vessels belonging to the Port department and 16 in floating vessels of inland water-ways were inspected.

There were ten accidents during the year, but no injury was caused to person or property. Accidents

The net receipts for the year amounted to Rs. 84,954 and the expenditure to Rs. 75,689 as compared with Rs. 76,977 and Rs. 76,859, respectively, in the previous year. Finance

CANALS (1928–29)

206. Navigation was carried on as usual on the Dummagudem, Gōdāvari, Kistna, Kurnool-Cuddapah, Buckingham, West Coast and Vedaranniyam canals. The total receipts amounted to Rs. 4·25 lakhs, an increase of Rs. 0·26 lakh over the figure of last year. The increase occurred chiefly in the Kistna canals and the Buckingham canal. The increase in the Kistna canals occurred under annual and six weeks' licence fees and that in the Buckingham canal was due to the raising of the scale of fees.

IRRIGATION (1928–29)

207. The expenditure incurred on irrigation works (including capital expenditure on new works) rose from Rs. 216·52 lakhs to Rs. 233·58 lakhs and the revenue derived therefrom from Rs. 289·38 lakhs to Rs. 297·20 lakhs. The area charged as irrigated was 7,262,096 acres or 71,157 acres more than in the previous year. Gross expenditure and revenue

Productive works showed a return of 7·94 per cent as compared with 8·90 per cent in the previous year and 8·48 per cent 25 years ago in 1903–04.

208. Works for which capital and revenue accounts are kept are divided into (*a*) irrigation works, (*b*) navigation, embankment and drainage works, each class being subdivided into "Productive" and "Unproductive." The classification of a work as productive or unproductive is based upon the financial results of three consecutive years. Irrigation works

Productive works—Capital outlay

The capital outlay on irrigation works—productive (direct and indirect) rose from Rs. 108·71 lakhs to Rs. 119·58 lakhs and was expended chiefly on the Kistna delta, the Lower Coleroon anicut and the Cauvery delta systems and the Cauvery (Mettur) and the Polavaram Island projects. In the Polavaram Island project very good progress was made on the aqueduct at Annampalli and on the excavation of channels in the Polavaram Island. In the Kistna delta the diversion of the Nallamada drain was continued. The improvements to the Lower Anicut across the Coleroon were mostly completed. In the Cauvery delta the construction of a road dam above the Grand Anicut was nearly completed, and the improvements to the Ayyavayyanar were commenced. In the Cauvery (Mettur) project the Ghat road leading to the water-works and Salem camp, the construction of all buildings, the permanent water-works, the underground drainage works were all completed and the collection of materials and work on the main dam, the coffer dams, the Ellis Saddle cutting and the excavation of canals from the Grand Anicut made good progress. Electric power-supply from Mysore became available from November 1928, and the Salem-Mettur Dam railway line was opened in February 1929. The more important among the accessions to the special machinery for the project during the year were two electrically driven travelling concrete towers and three groups of stone crushers to feed them.

The total area under first and second crop charged as irrigated was 3,311,010 acres and 484,962 acres, respectively, as against 3,282,617 acres and 490,463 acres in the previous year.

Revenue and working expenses (Productive works)

The gross revenue and working expenses amounted to Rs. 189·39 lakhs and Rs. 57·29 lakhs, respectively, against Rs. 186·06 lakhs and Rs. 54·07 lakhs in the previous year. The net revenue due to improvements was Rs. 84·29 lakhs as against Rs. 84·10 lakhs in the previous year, representing a return of 7·94 per cent on the capital outlay of Rs. 10·62 crores, as against 8·90 per cent in 1927–28. After deducting interest charges, the profit for the year was Rs. 59·86 lakhs, as compared with Rs. 51·98

lakhs in the previous year. The accumulated profits up to the end of the year amounted to Rs. 27·18 crores. When compared with the previous year, the gross revenue showed an increase of Rs. 3·33 lakhs. The increase was appreciable in the case of the Kistna delta, Divi Pumping, the Pennar river canals, the Palar anicut and the Cheyyar anicut systems. The main reason for the increase was the extension of cultivation under first crop in the case of the first three systems, and under both first and second crops in the Cheyyar and the Palar anicut systems.

Unproductive works—Capital outlay

The capital outlay on irrigation works—unproductive (direct and indirect)—was Rs. 1·50 lakhs and was incurred chiefly in connexion with the Madras water-supply and irrigation system and the Basavannah channel. The area under first and second crop charged as irrigated was 243,535 and 16,842 acres respectively, as against 245,235 and 18,223 acres in the previous year.

Revenue and working expenses (Unproductive works)

The gross revenue and working expenses amounted to Rs. 9·53 lakhs and Rs. 4·58 lakhs respectively, as compared with Rs. 9·35 lakhs and Rs. 4·63 lakhs in the previous year. Of the net revenue of Rs. 4·95 lakhs, the portion due to improvements was Rs. 3·28 lakhs. After deducting interest charges, the deficit for the year was Rs. 10·08 lakhs.

Remissions

The remissions granted under "Productive" and "Unproductive" works amounted to Rs. 1,37,895 and Rs. 17,583 respectively, against Rs. 2,39,715 and Rs. 22,295 in the previous year. The areas affected were mainly the Gōdāvari delta, the Palar anicut and the Cauvery delta systems.

Navigation works (Unproductive)

209. There were three works under this class, viz., the Ganjām-Gopalpur canal, the Buckingham canal and the Vēdāranniyam canal. The gross receipts and charges amounted to Rs. 88,277 and Rs. 3,63,516, respectively, as against Rs. 75,916 and Rs. 3,14,473 in the previous year. There was thus a loss of Rs. 2,75,239 to Government on the working of the canals as against Rs. 2,38,557 in 1927–28.

210. The outlay on this class of works including that incurred by officers of and accounted for by the Civil department was Rs. 34·73 lakhs as against Rs. 32·02 lakhs in the previous year.

Irrigation works for which capital and revenue accounts are not kept

The area charged as irrigated rose from 3,154,401 acres to 3,205,747 acres. The increase was due to the favourable character of the season.

The revenue inclusive of the amount collected by the Public Works department was Rs. 96·45 lakhs against Rs. 92·48 lakhs in the previous year.

Tank Restoration Scheme

One noticeable feature during the year was that all estimates for Tank Restoration Scheme works connected with tanks in charge of the Revenue department, which do not require special technical skill, were ordered to be sent to the Collectors for execution by the Minor Irrigation staff.

The total area coming within the scope of the Tank Restoration Scheme investigation was 102,500 square miles. During the year 501 square miles were investigated bringing the total to 86,862 square miles. An area of 494 square miles was entered upon during the year. Works were completed for 82,280 square miles of the area investigated and in the remaining area of 4,582 square miles, works were in progress or yet to be begun. Estimates valued at Rs. 3·30 lakhs were sanctioned for Government works. The total amount sanctioned under this head from the beginning of the operations to the end of the year was Rs. 179·62 lakhs. The expenditure during the year was Rs. 1·83 lakhs, or Rs. 2·27 lakhs including percentage charges.

Navigation, embankment and drainage works for which capital and revenue accounts are not kept

211. The outlay incurred on navigation, embankment and drainage works for which capital and revenue accounts are not kept fell from Rs. 17 lakhs to Rs. 15·35 lakhs, while the revenue rose from Rs. ·74 lakh to Rs. ·95 lakh.

Investigation of projects

212. In the Vizagapatam district a scheme was investigated with a view to utilize the waters of the Gurrapurevu stream for the irrigation of lands in the Narasapatam and Sarvasiddhi taluks and also of other lands under the Tuni river, but it was dropped as the levels were not favourable. A project for the construction of a dam across the Sithapallivagu near Ramanayyapeta in the Rampa Agency for the irrigation of about 2,000 to 3,000 acres was under investigation.

The scheme for constructing inlets and outlets in the Ellore canal for controlling the Budameru floods was, on further examination, found to be unnecessary and dropped. The Gundlakamma project in Guntūr was reinvestigated and again abandoned, but further representations having been made on behalf of the ryots, the project was taken up again in a modified form and was under consideration. The Mellavagu project in the same district which had been abandoned in 1917, was put forward again and an investigation as to the area available for irrigation and an enquiry as to the willingness of the local ryots to take water were ordered by the Government.

The investigation of the Tungabhadra project was continued by a special division constituted for the purpose. In the Anantapur district the investigation of the Kannapalle project was completed, while as regards the Pennar-Kumudavathi project, the investigation which was commenced by a special subdivision in January 1929, had to be suspended the next month owing to an outbreak of plague. The Belahal project in Bellary was under investigation.

The Meengarai project in Malabar was abandoned as it was found unproductive. As regards the Lower Bhavāni project in Coimbatore, the advisability of having an irrigated dry project in preference to a wet project was under examination. The proposals for remodelling the Arkenkottah and Thadapalli channels were in abeyance pending the results of experiments as regards the duty of water to be adopted.

The Tennel project in the South Arcot district for the construction of an anicut across the

Pombay river to extend irrigation to about 1,000 acres was under consideration. Proposals for improvements to the Nallur and Kittianai Uppanar in connexion with the drainage of the Shiyali taluk and proposals for the disposal of the upland drainage above and below the Cauvery and Vennar regulators were under examination. Various proposals connected with the Kattalai anicut scheme were ordered to be investigated by a special subdivision constituted for the purpose.

Floods

213. In the Yellamanchili subdivision of the Vizagapatam division one of the most abnormal floods ever recorded during the last 50 years occurred towards the end of October and caused very heavy damage to irrigation works, the more important of these being the Gokivada regulator, and the Pulaparti anicut.

HYDRO-ELECTRIC DEVELOPMENT

214. The department was reorganized at the beginning of the year under review and a definite programme of hydro-electric development drawn up. The general report on the Pykara project was submitted to Government. Later, all previous designs and estimates were revised on the recommendations of the consulting engineers of the Railway Board and an up-to-date revised supplement was prepared. The South Indian Railway has definitely recommended the electrification of certain sections and these recommendations have yet to be confirmed by the Railway Board. Pending the result of negotiations with the Railway Board and the sanction of the Government of India to a modified scheme, it was decided to undertake the construction of the Glen Morgan project, which really constitutes part of the work scheduled for the first year's programme in the construction of the main scheme. A start has thus been made in the electrical development of the Nilgiris and a source of power for construction purposes provided for the main Pykara scheme. Special arrangements have been made for the

utilization of all machinery and equipment for other purposes, whenever the main Pykara plant is placed in service. In the event, however, of the main scheme not being sanctioned the Glen Morgan project could be classed as an independent and productive work. Arrangements have been made to supply electrical energy from Glen Morgan in bulk to the Ootacamund Municipal Council who in turn will distribute energy to the Coonoor Municipality. Construction of the transmission lines between Pykara and Ootacamund and Ootacamund and Coonoor have been taken up.

An introductory report based on a reconnaissance survey was submitted for the Pāpanāsam project. If the scheme is to be commercially feasible, it is necessary to create a larger demand for power in the district. For this purpose, proposals to exploit the rich bamboo deposits for manufacturing artificial silk or paper are under consideration. Instructions were issued to carry out certain field investigations in connexion with the Kolab scheme in the Vizagapatam district. The possibility of power development in the Javadi hills and from the Anantagiri catchment area were investigated, but the results were not encouraging.

TRAMWAYS (1928-29)

215. The Madras Electric Tramways is at present operating a route mileage of 16 miles and 164 yards, of which a length of 6 miles and 5 furlongs and 147 yards is double track. The line equipment is overhead trolley system throughout, suspended by side or centre poles. The Madras Electric Supply Corporation supplies the current. During the year, 95 tram cars, one special car and one car for carrying road metal were in operation, the daily average number of cars in use being 78. The cars ran a total distance of 2,466,720 miles and carried 19,568,936 passengers. Three new cars were constructed during the year.

CHAPTER V

REVENUE AND FINANCE (1928-29)

[Statistical Abstract for British India—Finance]

REVENUE AND FINANCE OTHER THAN MUNICIPAL

(a) GROSS REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE

Revenue and expenditure

216. The following statements give the figures for each of the past two years of Central and Provincial revenue and expenditure, as well as the capital expenditure on State Railways, Irrigation Works and Civil Works not charged to Revenue, but excluding expenditure on such heads as Army, and Posts and Telegraphs:—

A.—Central and Provincial Funds—Receipts.

Heads of account.	Central.		Provincial.	
	1927-28.	1928-29.	1927-28.	1928-29.
	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.
I. Customs	4,31,20,265	4,68,56,924	...	...
II. Taxes on Income	1,33,54,348	1,30,92,966	5,94,325	5,48,330
III. Salt	1,44,54,900	1,47,54,882	...	...
V. Land Revenue	...	...	7,54,35,103	7,54,41,254
VI. Excise	...	...	5,34,37,219	5,58,76,226
VII. Stamps—				
A. Non-Judicial	...	...	1,02,97,102	1,05,84,814
B. Judicial	...	...	1,47,14,115	1,45,31,987
VIII. Forest	...	...	53,44,431	61,55,728
X. Registration	...	...	39,05,522	34,12,183
X. Tributes from Indian States	9,96,519	9,96,519	...	...
I. State Railways—				
Gross receipts	*14,49,67,081*	*14,90,04,716*	...	...
Deduct—Working expenses	*—9,61,19,215*	*—8,67,48,620*	...	...
Net receipts	4,88,47,866	6,22,56,096	...	...
XII. Subsidized Companies ...	5,911	1,48,988	...	...

A.—*Central and Provincial Funds—Receipts*—cont.

Heads of account.	Central.		Provincial.	
	1927-28.	1928-29.	1927-28.	1928-29.
	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.
XIII. Irrigation, Navigation, Embankment and Drainage Works for which capital accounts are kept	...	...	(—) *45,38,935*	(—) *48,74,418*
XIV. Irrigation, Navigation, Embankment and Drainage Works for which no capital accounts are kept ...	...	...	1,42,890	190 2,62,655
XVI. Interest	6,57,863	5,93,354	25,17,095	34,27,635
XVII. Administration of Justice.	...	...	12,93,771	13,47,060
XVIII. Jails and Convict Settlements	...	...	9,15,968	9,33,598
XIX. Police	...	...	9,99,499	11,39,982
XX. Ports and Pilotage ...	68	27	...	346
XXI. Education	...	...	6,53,794	6,83,097
XXII. Medical	...	...	4,56,552	8,09,653
XXIII. Public Health	...	574	55,004	1,43,258
XXIV. Agriculture	...	...	3,29,580	3,40,736
XXV. Industries	...	...	11,72,465	8,98,329
XXVI. Miscellaneous Departments	3,96,824	2,07,445	5,01,198	5,65,455
XXVII. Currency	27,175	26,190	...	...
XXX. Civil Works	19,305	22,555	9,25,292	13,06,344
XXXIII. Receipts in aid of Superannuation	97,567	1,14,229	3,91,969	3,88,626
XXXIV. Stationery and Printing ...	4,169	4,796	3,05,770	2,88,211
XXXV. Miscellaneous	(—) *1,04,088*	(—) *1,46,792*	6,87,320	10,99,258
Total, A ...	12,18,79,192	13,89,28,753	17,05,37,055	190 17,53,10,637
Miscellaneous adjustments between the Central and Provincial Governments	5,50,986	...	(—) *5,50,986*	...
Total including A ...	12,24,30,178	13,89,28,753	16,99,86,069	190 17,53,10,637
Miscellaneous Government Account	...	...	...	140
Appropriation for reduction or avoidance of debt	...	...	40,21,250	45,66,299
Depreciation Funds ...	...	...	2,28,336	2,15,947
Suspense Accounts ...	1,76,584	1,61,994	7,25,741	38,26,927
Famine Relief Fund ...	...	...	7,73,003	4,51,250
Loans and advances by Provincial Government	...	...	36,79,293	36,87,627
Advances from Provincial Loans Fund—Government of India ...	...	...	1,60,00,000	1,37,85,000
Grand total ...	12,26,06,762	13,90,90,747	19,54, 3,692	190 20,18,43,827

B.—*Central and Provincial Funds—Charges.*

Heads of account.	Central.		Provincial.					
			1927-28.			1928-29.		
	1927-28.	1928-29.	India.	England.	Total.	India.	England.	Total.
	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.
1. Customs	18,81,309	26,21,396	...	...	...	...	...	...
2. Taxes on Income	7,90,347	8,32,048	...	...	...	...	...	...
3. Salt	23,55,179	18,74,798	...	...	...	...	...	...
5. Land Revenue	...	...	39,16,274	64,576	39,80,850	30,73,167	55,37●	31,28,541
6. Excise	...	...	42,96,246	38,858	43,35,104	43,67,406	25,901	43,93,307
7. Stamps	...	...	6,25,393	264	6,25,657	6,71,083	...	6,71,083
8. Forest	...	...	42,31,939	1,47,421	43,79,360	41,89,659	1,74,988	43,64,647
8-A. Forest Capital outlay charged to Revenue	...	...	5,37,655	...	5,37,655	4,77,480	...	4,77,480
9. Registration	...	...	26,33,593	...	26,33,593	27,03,386	...	27,03,386
10. State Railways	39,64,119	39,47,522	...	...	...	...	...	...
11. Subsidized Companies	12,907	(−) 5,39,377	...	...	...	...	...	...
12. Miscellaneous Railway expenditure	46,061	67,730	...	...	...	...	...	...
14. Interest on works for which capital accounts are kept ...	...	...	48,26,839	...	48,26,839	53,98,330	...	53,98,330
15. Other Revenue expenditure financed from ordinary Revenues	...	...	49,04,167	245	49,04,412	50,00,946	2,981	50,12,927
15. (1) Other Revenue expenditure financed from Famine Insurance grants	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
16. Construction of Irrigation, Navigation, Embankment and Drainage Works	...	...	2,093	...	2,093	1,53,112	...	1,53,112
19. Interest on ordinary debt ...	1,06,32,631	1,08,80,962	13,44,527	...	13,44,527	12,34,481	...	12,34,481
20. Interest on other obligations ...	29,52,114	38,59,675	1,962	...	1,962	5,698	...	5,698
21. Reduction or Avoidance of debt.	...	...	40,21,250	...	40,21,250	45,66,299	...	45,66,299
22. General administration	38,125	38,125	2,24,07,209	5,12,482	2,29,19,691	2,38,04,708	6,68,414	2,44,73,122
23. Audit	6,65,507	7,47,952	...	...	...	...	...	...
24. Administration of Justice ...	...	...	94,04,401	2,48,586	96,52,987	94,63,005	2,54,065	97,17,070
25. Jails and Convict Settlements ...	...	...	30,18,180	53,144	30,71,324	30,16,391	58,185	30,74,576
26. Police	...	...	1,88,43,246	3,79,089	1,92,22,335	1,92,06,578	3,89,089	1,95,95,667
27. Ports and Pilotage	...	...	28,590	...	28,590	29,547	...	29,547
28. Ecclesiastical	2,30,926	2,14,042	...	...	...	...	...	...

29, Political	2,07,801	2,14,531	...	...	...	...	...	...
30. Scientific Departments	...	...	2,85,775	25,633	3,11,408	3,16,229	10,794	3,27,023
31. Education	...	...	2,16,69,787	2,28,064	2,20,97,851	2,61,24,406	1,59,613	2,62,84,019
32. Medical	...	...	67,31,398	3,63,967	70,95,365	82,21,811	4,73,342	86,95,153
33. Public Health	23,082	24,946	24,89,937	64,003	25,53,940	26,23,595	77,864	27,01,459
34. Agriculture	...	...	33,75,764	1,04,644	34,80,408	37,56,688	1,00,997	38,57,685
35. Industries	...	...	18,53,576	1,65,637	20,19,213	19,09,044	2,99,997	22,09,041
37. Miscellaneous Departments ...	65,944	72,080	21,81,375	28,183	22,09,558	23,79,463	20,010	23,99,473
38. Currency	2,89,565	3,10,650	...	...	...	...	...	...
41. Civil Works	88,556	1,23,699	1,40,29,210	3,54,437	1,43,83,647	1,58,72,783	3,40,787	1,62,13,570
43. Famine	...	...	6,61,000	...	6,61,000	3,00,000	...	3,00,000
44. Territorial and Political Pensions	2,53,761	2,39,118	...	...	...	...	...	...
45. Superannuation Allowances and Pensions	4,89,381	5,20,101	47,66,523	10,44,251	58,10,774	50,53,205	11,50,685	62,03,890
45-A. Commuted Value of Pensions financed from ordinary Revenues	...	...	2,10,599	...	2,10,599	6,78,020	...	6,78,020
46. Stationery and Printing	26,805	23,167	17,44,560	3,03,278	20,47,838	17,69,033	2,48,884	20,17,917
47. Miscellaneous	2,249	2,557	4,39,257	3,692	4,42,949	5,09,633	320	5,09,953
Total expenditure charged to Revenue	2,50,16,369	2,60,75,722	14,56,82,325	41,30,454	14,98,12,779	15,68,84,186	45,12,290	16,13,96,476
52-A. Capital outlay on Forests ...	...	...	2,21,066	...	2,21,066	*—59,234*	...	*—59,234*
53. Construction of State Railways ..	5,84,39,738	4,49,74,549	...	...	..	...	...	...
55. Construction of Irrigation, Navigation, Embankment and Drainage Works	...	...	99,34,448	6,70,030	1,06,04,478	86,38,929	31,17,127	1,17,56,056
56-C. Capital outlay on Industrial Development	...	...	3,12,367	...	3,12,367	2,21,862	...	2,21,862
56-D. Capital outlay on Hydro-electric schemes	...	...	...	...	...	2,55,057	1,10,763	3,65,820
60. Civil Works	...	...	13,28,262	...	13,28,262	1,45,241	...	1,45,241
60-B. Payments of Commuted Value of pensions...	...	...	12,54,313	...	12,54,313	*—1,21,718*	...	*—1,21,718*
Total Capital Outlay ...	5,84,39,738	4,49,74,549	1,30,50,456	6,70,030	1,37,20,486	90,80,137	32,27,890	1,23,08,027
Famine Relief Fund	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Depreciation Funds	...	...	54,590	...	54,590	40,949	...	40,949
Suspense Accounts	1,46,147	1,57,300	7,03,562	...	7,03,562	37,04,871	...	37,04,871
Loans and Advances by Provincial Government	...	...	86,37,578	...	86,37,578	60,73,427	...	60,73,427
Advances from Provincial Loans Fund, Government of India ...	...	...	40,21,250	...	40,21,250	45,66,299	...	45,66,299
Grand total (Disbursements) ...	8,36,02,254	7,12,07,571	17,21,49,761	48,00,484	17,69,50,245	18,03,49,869	77,40,180	18,80,90,049

REVENUE AND FINANCE

Cash balance

217. The amount of cash balance in the Government treasuries (excluding that held by the Imperial Bank of India) was Rs. 60 lakhs at the beginning and Rs. 73 lakhs at the close of the year 1928-29.

(*b*) CENTRAL REVENUE AND FINANCE

General

218. The receipts on account of Central Revenue in 1928-29 exceeded those of the previous year by Rs. 164·99 lakhs. This was mainly the result of an increase under "Customs" (+Rs. 37·37 lakhs) and "State Railways" (+Rs. 134·08 lakhs), counterbalanced to a small extent by a decrease under "Miscellaneous adjustments between Central and Provincial" (−Rs. 5·51 lakhs).

The Central expenditure charged to Revenue in 1928-29 exceeded that in 1927-28 by Rs. 10·60 lakhs. Increased expenditure occurred under "Customs" (+Rs. 7·40 lakhs) and "Interest on other obligations" (+Rs. 9·08 lakhs), and this was counterbalanced to some extent by short expenditure under "Subsidized companies" (−Rs. 5·52 lakhs).

Net receipts from State railways

219. There was an increase of Rs. 134·08 lakhs in 1928-29 in the net receipts from "State Railways" as compared with the previous year. This is accounted for by a fall (−Rs. 93·70 lakhs) in the working expenses as well as an improvement (+Rs. 40·38 lakhs) in the gross receipts, chiefly of the Madras and Southern Mahratta Railway.

Miscellaneous adjustments between Central and Provincial Governments

220. A special payment of Rs. 5·51 lakhs representing the value of stamps issued to the Madras Government by the Government of India, prior to 1st April 1923 was credited to "Central" during 1927-28. There was no such adjustment in 1928-29.

Capital outlay on State railways

221. The decrease of Rs. 134·65 lakhs in the "Capital outlay on State Railways—not charged to revenue" was due to shorter expenditure generally on several of the lines under construction.

222. The opening balance under "Loans and Advances by the Central Government" on the 1st April 1928 was Rs. 135·60 lakhs. No advances were made during the year. The repayments during the year amounted to Rs. 5·85 lakhs, the items being Rs. 2·36 lakhs by the Madras Corporation, Rs. 2·93 lakhs by the Madras Port Trust and Rs. ·56 lakh by the Tanjore District Board Railway. The closing balance at the end of the year was Rs. 129·75 lakhs. **Loans and advances by the Central Government**

(c) REVENUE AND FINANCE OTHER THAN CENTRAL

223. The provincial accounts opened with a balance of Rs. 494·72 lakhs on 1st April 1928 and closed with a balance of Rs. 632·26 lakhs on 31st March 1929. These figures include the balance in the Famine Relief Fund which stood at Rs. 37·30 lakhs on the 1st April 1928 and Rs. 41·81 lakhs at the close of the year. **Provincial balance**

224. The provincial revenues in 1928–29 were more than those of the previous year by Rs. 53·25 lakhs. The increase occurred mainly under "Excise" (+Rs. 24·39 lakhs), "Forest" (+Rs. 8·12 lakhs) and "Interest" (+Rs. 9·11 lakhs). Smaller increases were recorded under "Medical" (+Rs. 3·53 lakhs), "Civil Works" (+Rs. 3·81 lakhs), "Miscellaneous" (+Rs. 4·12 lakhs) and "Miscellaneous adjustments between Central and Provincial Governments" (+Rs. 5·51 lakhs). On the other hand, there was a slight fall in the receipts under "Registration" (— Rs. 4·93 lakhs), and under "Irrigation" (—Rs. 3·35 lakhs). **Provincial revenues and expenditure**

The provincial expenditure charged to Revenue in 1928–29 exceeded that in 1927–28 by Rs. 115·83 lakhs. The bulk of the increase occurred under "Education" (+Rs. 41·86 lakhs), "Medical" (+Rs. 16 lakhs), "Civil Works" (+Rs. 18·30 lakhs), and "General Administration" (+Rs. 15·53 lakhs). Increases occurred also under "Interest on works for which capital accounts are kept" and "Interest on ordinary debt" (+Rs. 4·62 lakhs), "Reduction or avoidance of debt" (+Rs. 5·45 lakhs), "Police" (+Rs. 3·74 lakhs), "Agriculture" (+Rs. 3·78 lakhs), "Superannuation allowances and pensions"

(+Rs. 3·93 lakhs) and "Commuted value of pensions financed from ordinary revenues" (+Rs. 4·67 lakhs). "Land Revenue," however, showed a short expenditure of Rs. 8·53 lakhs.

Provincial revenues

Taxes on income

225. Under rule 15 of the Devolution Rules, the provincial share of the income-tax receipts adjusted in 1928–29 amounted to Rs. 5·48 lakhs as against Rs. 5·94 lakhs in 1927–28.

Land revenue receipts

226. The receipts under "Land Revenue" were practically the same as in the previous year.

Excise

227. The revenue from "Excise" rose from Rs. 534·37 lakhs in 1927–28 to Rs. 558·76 lakhs in 1928–29. The increase of Rs. 24·39 lakhs was due to increased consumption, to the enhancement in the rates of tree-tax with effect from the 1st October 1927 and to better rentals realized from the auction sales of toddy shops.

(For further information about excise revenue see under "Opium, Excise and Stamps.")

Stamps

228. Under "Stamps," there was a slight increase of Rs. 1·06 lakhs, being the net result of an increase of Rs. 2·88 lakhs under "Non-judicial stamps" due to an increase in dutiable transactions and a decrease of Rs. 1·82 lakhs under "Judicial stamps," which is ascribed to a fall in litigation owing to the introduction of panchayat courts.

Forest

229. Forest revenue showed an improvement of Rs. 8·12 lakhs as compared with the previous year. This was due partly to extended timber and sleeper sales by Government agency (+ Rs. 2·10 lakhs), larger receipts from timber and other produce removed from forests by consumers and purchasers (+ Rs. 2·47 lakhs). There was also an increase (+ Rs. 4·09 lakhs) under "Profits," "Recoveries of indirect charges" and "Recoveries of investments" in the case of Government commercial concerns due chiefly to the fact that in the accounts of 1928–29 adjustments were made in respect of the transactions of that year and of the previous year.

Registration

230. The decrease of Rs. 4·93 lakhs under "Registration" in 1928–29 was mainly the result of the reduction of the sale of registration fees to

the pre-war level, which was given effect to towards the end of the previous year.

231. The fall of Rs. 3·35 lakhs under "Irrigation" was caused by an increase in working expenses (mainly under repairs), which are shown as deduction from receipts. **Irrigation**

232. The increased receipts of Rs. 9·11 lakhs were due chiefly to the interest on provincial balances deposited with the Government of India, and the interest realized from loans and advances sanctioned by the Provincial Government. **Interest**

233. The increase of Rs. 3·53 lakhs under "Medical" is only nominal, as the recoveries from local bodies, the Army Department and the Mysore Darbar are treated as receipts from 1st April 1928, instead of being taken in reduction of charges as in previous years. **Medical**

234. The increase in revenue (Rs. 3·81 lakhs) in 1928-29 is accounted for mainly by the increased receipts from tolls on Agency roads transferred to the control of the Public Works Department. **Civil works**

235. The increased receipts (Rs. 4·12 lakhs) were under "Fees for inspection of motor buses" and "G. permit fees" and under "Recoveries of overpayments and collection of payments for services rendered" and miscellaneous items. **Miscellaneous**

236. The short expenditure of Rs. 8·53 lakhs under "Land Revenue" in 1928-29 as compared with the previous year was mainly the result of a change in classification in the accounts, according to which pay, allowances and other charges relating to inspecting tahsildars and clerks working as revenue inspectors were transferred from this head to "22. General Administration." **Provincial expenditure: Land revenue**

237. The total increase of Rs. 4·62 lakhs under these heads mainly occurred in respect of the interest on loans taken from the Provincial Loans Fund. **Interest on works for which capital accounts are kept and interest on ordinary debt**

Reduction or avoidance of debt

238. The larger expenditure to the extent of Rs. 5·45 lakhs was on account of the repayment of the progressively increasing loans taken from the Provincial Loans Fund.

General administration

239. The rise in expenditure of 15·53 lakhs was mostly on account of the change in classification referred to under "Land Revenue" above. There was also an increase in the charges for petty construction and repairs and village establishments under "District Administration."

Police

240. The increase of Rs. 3·74 lakhs occurred mainly under "District Police—Travelling allowances," "Rents," "Petty construction and repairs," "Clothing and equipment," and "Supplies and Services—Miscellaneous."

Education

241. As compared with the actual expenditure of 1927–28, the expenditure under "Education" in 1928–29 showed an increase of Rs. 41·86 lakhs. The bulk of the increase is due to the payment of a non-recurring grant of Rs. 27 lakhs to the Annamalai University, under section 41 (ii) (*b*) of the Annamalai University Act of 1929. Other causes contributing to the increase were the introduction of new schemes, such as the opening of new elementary schools for boys and girls, the expansion of training facilities for teachers, the strengthening of the staff in existing schools under local bodies and village panchayats, the employment of additional junior deputy inspectors of schools and of sub-assistant inspectresses and the opening of science classes for the B.A. pass course in the Ceded Districts College, Anantapur.

Medical

242. The increased expenditure of Rs. 16 lakhs as compared with the previous year was due mainly to the provincialization, with effect from 1st May 1928, of 106 local fund and municipal medical institutions, which accounts for an increase of about 12 lakhs. The balance of the increase is due to the natural expansion of the department and extension of its normal activities such as the increase of patients and the consequent rise in dietary and other hospital charges.

243. The major portion of the increase (3·78 lakhs) under this head occurred under the Veterinary department due to the opening of new veterinary dispensaries and heavy consumption of anti-rinderpest serum owing to the severity of rinderpest in many districts during the year, and under the Co-operative department due to the strengthening of the staff. Agriculture

244. The increased expenditure of Rs. 18·30 lakhs was due mainly to the adoption of a larger programme of works, the construction of a number of buildings necessitated by the bifurcation of the Kistna district, the reconstruction of the Cauvery and Coleroon bridges damaged by the floods, the pumping scheme for the flushing of the Cooum, and the large outlay incurred on repairs to buildings and roads damaged by the cyclone of 1927–28. Civil works

245. The increase of Rs. 11·52 lakhs over the previous year's expenditure represents mainly the larger outlay in connexion with the Cauvery-Mettur project. Capital outlay—Construction of irrigation works

246. An expenditure of Rs. 3·66 lakhs was incurred during the year under review, in connexion with the Glen Morgan Hydro-electric scheme which has been designed to give light and power service to Ootacamund and certain tea estates on the Nilgiris. This scheme will form part of the larger Pykara Hydro-electric scheme. Capital outlay on hydro-electric schemes

247. Under the revised Schedule IV to the Devolution Rules which came into force during 1928–29, the Provincial Government is required to make every year provision in the budget, for expenditure upon the relief of famine, of a sum of Rs. 3 lakhs. This annual assignment is to be expended only on the relief of famine and any portion which is not so spent should be transferred to the "Famine-relief Fund" of the province. The balance at the credit of this fund is regarded as invested with the Government of India, who pay interest on it; and it will be available at any time for expenditure on the relief of famine. When in any year, the accumulated total of the Famine-relief Fund is not less than Rs. 40 lakhs, Famine relief

the Provincial Government may suspend temporarily the provision of the annual assignment. When the balance in the Famine-relief Fund exceeds Rs. 40 lakhs, the local Government may utilize the excess to meet expenditure on protective irrigation works and other works for the prevention of famine, in the grant of loans to cultivators, or in the repayment of advances from the Provincial Loans Fund, or to meet irrecoverable balances of loans to cultivators.

The opening balance at the credit of the fund on 1st April 1928 was Rs. 37·30 lakhs. In the year under review an expenditure of Rs. ·01 lakh (Rs. 573) was incurred on famine relief and the balance of the assignment (Rs. 3·00 — ·01 = Rs. 2·99 lakhs) was transferred to the Famine-relief Fund. The amount credited to the fund during the year on account of interest on the amount at the credit of the fund and recoveries of famine expenditure was Rs. 1·52 lakhs. The closing balance at the end of the year thus amounted to Rs. 41·81 lakhs.

Loans and advances by the Provincial Government

248. The Provincial Advance and Loan Account (including loans to local boards for railway construction) opened with a balance of Rs. 432·52 lakhs and closed with a balance of Rs. 456·38 lakhs. Advances to cultivators sanctioned in 1928–29 amounted to Rs 16·14 lakhs as against Rs. 29·79 lakhs in the previous year. The loans advanced under the State Aid to Industries Act amounted to Rs. 1·72 lakhs. The Port Conservancy Board, Cochin was given a loan of Rs. 6 lakhs, while no loans were advanced to the Madras Corporation. The loans disbursed to mufassal municipalities and local boards for the construction of bridges, drainage works, markets, hospitals and the like amounted to Rs. 26·74 lakhs. Advances for the acquisition of house-sites for Adi-Drāvidas amounted to Rs. ·99 lakh including Rs. ·42 lakh advanced to co-operative societies for the purpose. Loans amounting to Rs. ·08 lakh were sanctioned for the purchase of cattle, ploughs, seeds, etc., on behalf of Adi-Drāvidas. Loans were also disbursed to co-operative house building societies (Rs. 5·93 lakhs), Kallar co-

operative societies (Rs. 1·50 lakhs), co-operative sale societies (Rs. ·03 lakh), and co-operative milk societies (Rs. ·15 lakh). A sum of Rs. ·24 lakh was advanced to the Hindu Religious Endowments Board and a sum of Rs. ·05 lakh to the Salvation Army. Loans to land mortgage banks amounted to Rs. ·99 lakh. Fish-curers were given advances amounting to Rs. ·10 lakh. Petty sums were also given as loans to divers, Chenchus and Kurumbars.

Loans between Central and Provincial Governments

249. The advances obtained in 1928–29 by the Provincial Government from the Provincial Loans Fund under rule 25 of the Devolution Rules to meet capital and other miscellaneous expenditure amounted to Rs. 137·85 lakhs, carrying interest at 5 per cent per annum, while the sums repaid to the Provincial Loans Fund amounted to Rs. 45·66 lakhs, made up of Rs. 9·50 lakhs on account of the annual instalment in repayment of the outstanding balance of the Provincial Advance and Loan Account and Rs. 36·16 lakhs in repayment of the outstanding balances of the advances taken during the period 1921–22 to 1927–28 to meet capital and other miscellaneous expenditure.

Local funds

250. The following table summarizes the transactions in funds raised from special sources and devoted to special objects and not to general purposes of administration (Central and Provincial).

Statement showing the transactions of Local Funds for the year 1928–29

Name of fund.	Opening balance on 1st April 1928.			Receipts during 1928-29.			Charges during 1928-29.			Closing balance on 31st March 1929.			Securities.		
	RS.	A.	P.	RS.	A.	P.	RS.	A.	P.	RS.	A.	P.	RS.	A.	P.
Cantonment Fund ...	32,802	10	11	1,06,342	1	11	1,16,915	0	3	22,229	12	7	...		
Madras Port Fund ...	50,500	0	7	2,94,482	15	3	3,04,112	5	6	40,870	10	4	24,200	0	0
Minor Ports Fund (a)	1,31,786	11	5	7,91,045	8	3	5,36,863	7	5	3,85,968	12	3	25,56,510	0	0
Cochin Port Fund ...	96,662	3	3	1,68,730	15	0	94,513	12	8	1,70,879	5	7	3,93,890	0	0
Tuticorin Port Fund.	31,712	1	10	1,64,577	1	9	1,67,543	0	3	28,746	3	4	1,06,000	0	0
Tuticorin Port Trust Fund.															
Tuticorin Port Trust Provident Fund.	3,37,453	2	10	5,20,546	13	0	6,75,026	6	10	1,82,973	9	0	6,13,175	0	0
Vizagapatam Port Fund	8,632	15	1	35,156	1	0	29,951	3	5	13,837	12	8	38,200	0	0

(a) Includes Special Provident Fund for the Port department.

Statement showing the transactions of Local Funds for the year 1928–29—cont.

Name of fund.	Opening balance on 1st April 1928.	Receipts during 1928-29.	Charges during 1928-29.	Closing balance on 31st March 1929	Securities.
	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.
Minor Pilotage Fund	4,375 4 6	27,592 2 10	18,861 3 7	13,106 3 9	1,83,090 0 0
Landing and Shipping Dues Fund ...	3,94,908 13 4	26,11,293 9 0	20,24,519 14 7	9,81,682 7 9	12,53,960 0 0
Madras Coast Lights Fund...	2,07,124 10 6	3,76,916 14 0	2,15,325 13 7	3,68,715 10 11	9,30,600 0 0
Lightkeepers' Recreation and Benefit Fund ...	1,598 8 5	5,107 3 10	4,094 9 8	2,611 2 7	9,930 0 0
Madras University Fee Fund	2,47,818 15 8	8,96,686 3 10	10,50,588 12 0	93,916 7 6	...
Andhra University Fee Fund	4,567 12 0	1,19,698 10 3	1,20,801 14 3	3,464 8 0	...
Bhadrachalam and Nugur Special Fund...	16,777 0 9	9,085 12 10	8,414 9 11	17,448 3 8	...
Irrigation Cess Fund.	43,827 10 4	67,693 10 1	64,363 3 6	47,158 0 11	...

251. (For information about local funds constituted under Act V of 1884—see supra Chapter III —Local Boards Administration.)

CUSTOMS (1928–29)

Finance

252. The total revenue receipts of the Presidency increased from Rs. 435·95 lakhs to Rs. 473·70 lakhs or by more than 8 per cent. The total disbursements of the Customs department throughout the Presidency increased from Rs. 23·56 lakhs to Rs. 31·35 lakhs.

Offences

The number of cases dealt with under the Sea Customs Act (including those under the Merchandise Marks Act) was 1,400 as against 1,578 in the previous year.

SALT (1928–29)

Manufacture

253. The season of 1928 was not so favourable for salt manufacture as the preceding one, though in the Southern division the season was good and the output in the factories of the Tuticorin circle reached a record figure of 44 lakhs of maunds. The early commencement of the monsoon and frequent rain during the season retarded scrapings

in the Northern division generally, the factories that were most affected being those of the Ganjām and the Naupada circles. There was heavy rain in the second fortnight of October 1928 in the districts of Ganjām, Vizagapatam, Gōdāvari, Guntūr, Madras and Chingleput, with the result that many roads, bridges, buildings and patrol paths in several factories were damaged by floods. The damage was serious in the factories of Bimlipatam, Balacheruvu and Polavaram situated in the Vizagapatam district, but as manufacture had closed in all these factories by October and the salt had been brought under cover, there was no damage to salt in any of them except at Polavaram where a small quantity of about 10,000 maunds was washed away.

Owing to the unfavourable conditions, the quantity of salt manufactured in the year was only 122 lakhs of maunds or 25¾ lakhs of maunds less than the quantity produced in 1927. Of this quantity nearly 3½ lakhs of maunds belonged to Government and the balance to the licensees. The stock on hand at the beginning of the year was 74 lakhs of maunds and the quantity imported during the year, mainly from Bombay, was 15½ lakhs of maunds. The total stock of salt available for consumption was thus 211½ lakhs of maunds. The quantity issued during the year amounted to nearly 137½ lakhs of maunds as against 139½ lakhs of maunds in 1927-28. The decrease in issues was due to the smaller quantity of duty-free salt removed for the Travancore Darbar and for export to Ceylon.

Prices

The average wholesale price of excise salt in 1928-29 was the same as in 1927-28, namely, As. 3-5 per maund. The wholesale price of Government salt fell from As. 4-10 a maund in 1927-28 to As. 4-5 a maund in 1928-29. The retail prices at the headquarter stations varied on the average from As. 1-1·9 to As. 2-2·5 a Madras measure.

Issues

The quantity of salt imported by sea, mainly from Bombay, increased from 1,185,049 maunds to 1,202,924 maunds while that imported by rail from Bombay and Goa fell from 354,205 maunds to

347,558 maunds. The issues of locally manufactured and imported salt for ordinary consumption in the areas usually supplied increased from 12,831,724 maunds to 12,845,638 maunds. The quantity issued for export to Ceylon by sea fell from 375,772 to 243,228 maunds and that to the Travancore Darbar from 387,296 to 232,484 maunds. The quantities of salt issued to the French Government and the Fisheries department were 62,990 maunds and 300,934 maunds respectively as against 61,910 and 221,584 maunds in the previous year.

Finance

The total receipts on account of salt revenue were Rs. 147·65 lakhs in 1928–29 against Rs. 144·64 lakhs in 1927–28. The increase in the revenue is due chiefly to the greater realizations in the year of duty on Government salt issued on credit both before and during the year. The charges in 1928–1929 were on a par with the charges in the previous year, except under (i) Purchase of salt manufacturers' share, (ii) Conveyance and storage of salt, (iii) Works—Roads, (iv) Buildings, and (v) Miscellaneous. The decrease in expenditure under items (i) and (ii) was due to the low production of salt in the Ennore group of monopoly factories and at Polavaram during the year, while the decrease under item "(iii) Roads" was due to the fact that the expenditure in 1927–28 included a sum of nearly Rs. 98,500 adjusted finally towards the charges on account of the extension of the railway sidings in the Tuticorin factories. The increased expenditure under item "(iv) Buildings" was due to the necessity of repairing the extensive damage caused to buildings by the cyclone of November 1927 and that under item "(v) Miscellaneous" was occasioned by the payment of compensation to the ex-licensees of the Muthuraghunathapatnam factory.

INCOME-TAX (1928–29)

Administrative changes

254. There were no changes in the constitution of the circles during the year. But proposals were submitted to the Central Board of Revenue during

the year for the reconstitution into three circles each, of

(1) the Ellore and Bezwada circles,
(2) the Guntūr and Bapatla circles, and
(3) Karaikkudi I and II circles.

These proposals were sanctioned during the year with effect from 1st April 1929. The new circles constituted were Masulipatam, Guntūr II Circle and Karaikkudi III Circle.

Trade conditions

The conditions of trade in 1927-28 were slightly worse than in 1926-27 over a considerable part of the Presidency. There was a slump in the paddy trade throughout the Presidency owing mainly to the capture by Burma of the Ceylon market; rice mills and traders in paddy and rice fared badly in consequence. Traders in groundnuts did not also do well, partly because the crop was poor and partly because competition rose to unhealthy extents. The cotton crop was good in the northern districts and normal in the central and western parts of the Presidency. Trade in skins and hides was prosperous during the year, but traders in sheep skins did not do so well as those in hides. Even in regard to hides merchants, those who had entered into forward contracts for the supply of hides had a slight set-back during the close of the year owing to the sudden rise in the local price of hides about December 1927 and January 1928. Exporters of mica did not make much profits, there having been no demand in Europe owing, it is stated, to the large quantity of mica produced in Rhodesia and Australia. The only relieving feature of the export trade was that Madras handkerchiefs were in good demand from Liverpool and Egypt. The import trade was a little better. In particular, persons who imported yarn, glassware, motor-cars and articles of general merchandise are said to have made larger profits than in the preceding year. But hardware merchants did not fare well and the piece-goods market continued depressed. Cotton mills, however, did well and the export trade in Malabar produce and coffee showed a decided improvement. The silk industry suffered a reverse on account of the introduction of artificial silk and the importation

of Chinese silk. There used to be a brisk trade in timber in the West Coast, but this was affected adversely by the railways substituting iron sleepers for wooden ones. Tea did remarkably well in the West Coast and the Nilgiris. The failure of the monsoon affected parts of the Presidency and the money market was tight in those areas. The slump in the rubber trade in the Federated Malay States and unfavourable rates of exchange reacted to some extent on the importation of foreign profits into British India.

Financial results

The number of assessees rose from 51,802 in 1927–28 to 53,738 during the year under review. The increase was, as in previous years, mainly due to the discovery of new assessees. The demand under income-tax was Rs. 133·85 lakhs in 1928–29 against Rs. 133·22 lakhs in 1927–28. The demand under supertax was Rs. 21·21 lakhs against Rs. 21·15 lakhs in the previous year. The net collections during the year were Rs. 117·40 lakhs under income-tax and Rs. 20·99 lakhs under super-tax. The arrears at the end of the year were Rs. 2·27 lakhs under income-tax and Rs. ·37 lakh under super-tax against Rs. 2·13 lakhs under income-tax and Rs. 1·34 lakhs under super-tax at the end of the previous year. The number of new cases discovered and assessed during the year was 6,420 and the number of cases struck off was 3,512.

Refunds

The refunds under income-tax in 1928–29 amounted to Rs. 16·90 lakhs against Rs. 13·10 lakhs in 1927–28. The increase in the refunds was mainly accounted for by the refunds paid to partners of registered firms, and to the Ceylon Government in respect of certain securities held by them. The refunds under supertax amounted to Rs. ·93 lakh.

Expenditure

Expenditure in 1928–29 was Rs. 8,32,048 against Rs. 7,87,983 in 1927–28. The share of the local Government in the income-tax receipts under Devolution Rule No. 15 has been fixed at Rs. 5·46 lakhs against Rs. 6 08 lakhs in the previous year.

MUNICIPAL REVENUES

255. See supra chapter III—Protection—Municipal Administration (Mufassal) and Municipal Administration (City of Madras).

OPIUM, EXCISE AND STAMPS

[*Administration Report of the Madras Excise Department for the year 1928-29; Administration Report on Stamps for the year 1928-29*]

256. During the year under review there was an increase in the consumption of country spirits, opium, ganja and foreign liquor (the increase in the case of opium being small) and a decrease under toddy. Toddy shops and shops for the retail sale of country spirits diminished in number. There was an increase in the number of offences under the Abkāri Act.

The old advisory committees in municipalities and unions were abolished in 1927-28. Licensing boards with non-official majorities were constituted for 15 major municipalities in the mufassal and excise advisory committees on similar lines for most of the revenue divisional areas. The Excise Licensing Board of the Madras City was reconstituted. The recommendations of these bodies in the matter of number and location of shops were generally accepted.

257. The issue price of opium was enhanced from Rs. 75 to Rs. 80 per seer with effect from 1st April 1928. The consumption of opium during the year amounted to 35,186 seers as against 34,639 in the previous year. Five hundred and fifty-nine shops were sold by auction as compared with 560 in the previous year. The revenue derived from opium amounted to Rs. 45·24 lakhs of which Rs. 11·43 lakhs represented rentals. Municipal Health Officers continued to deal with the danger of giving opium to children at mothers' meetings, held in girls' schools and at child welfare centres. Vernacular editions of a pamphlet on the dangers of opium consumption are being printed for wide circulation. The Committee appointed to investigate the cause of the high consumption of opium in the East Gōdāvari district submitted its report during the year. Government have deferred consideration of the Committee's recommendations, pending the holding of a conference under the auspices of the Government of India for the purpose of comparing the results of the various

Opium

local investigations instituted by local Governments.

Offences

The number of offences under the Opium Act decreased from 186 to 168. The activities of smugglers to Ceylon and Burma continued in various parts of the Presidency.

Excise

Country spirits

258. There was no change in the areas for the contract supply of arrack except that the village of Gummidiguda in the Agency portion of Vizagapatam district was brought under the contract supply system from 1st October 1928 and included in the area supplied by the Vizagapatam distillers. The duty on arrack was raised from Rs. 5-7-9 to Rs. 6-14-6 per gallon of 35° u.p. in the Vizagapatam district and from Rs. 5-7-9 to Rs. 5-12-0 in the Chittoor and North Arcot districts. There was no change in the issue strengths of liquor. The limit of private possession of arrack without licence was reduced from 6 to 4 drams in the districts of Cuddapah, Anantapur, Bellary, Kurnool, Madras, Chingleput, South Arcot and Tanjore and the limit of 4 drams was also applied to all the municipal areas in the Presidency. The consumption of country spirits was 1,596,998 proof gallons as compared with 1,438,524 proof gallons in the previous year. This increase was generally due to the favourable season, the suppression of illicit distillation crime and the progress of harbour, railway and electrical works in many districts. The number of cases of illicit distillation and kindred offences rose from 2,632 to 2,699. The experiment of closing all arrack shops in two taluks of Tanjore district and one taluk in each of the districts of Rāmnād, Tinnevelly and Salem and the prohibition experiment on the Nilgiris, under which the sale of liquor of any kind to any member of the hill tribes is prohibited, except on medical certificate, were continued during the year.

Revenue

The number of shops for the retail vend of country spirits in the areas under the contract distillery system decreased from 5,738 to 5,721. The total revenue derived from country spirits rose from Rs. 206·94 lakhs to Rs. 224·73 lakhs, the increase being the result of an increase of Rs. 1·70

lakhs under rentals and Rs. 16·09 lakhs under duty.

The system of supply in the Agency tracts was generally unaltered. The central distillery system was made permanent in the Gunupur taluk of the Vizagapatam Agency and the privilege of free distillation enjoyed by the Koyas in certain areas in the Bhadrachalam taluk of the East Gōdāvari Agency was abolished and the central distillery system extended to the whole taluk. Arrangements were made for the better control of the central distilleries in the Bhadrachalam division. The consumption of mohwa arrack in all the areas under this system amounted to 72,484 gallons of 60° u.p. Under the outstill system 90 combined shops and stills in the Vizagapatam Agency were sold for Rs. 2,33,742. Agency tracts

259. There was no change in the rates of tree-tax for the toddy lease 1928–29. During the ten months of the lease, 972,833 coconuts, 692,717 palmyras, 951,083 dates and 5,871 sagos were licensed for tapping. The number in terms of coconuts for these ten months comes to 2,080,445 as against 2,108,673 for the corresponding period of the previous year. 10,283 shops were sold as compared with 10,375 for the lease 1927–28. Toddy

The total revenue derived during the official year amounted to Rs. 2,55,63,521 as compared with Rs. 2,41,84,791 in the previous year. Revenue

The tree-tax system was extended to 10 villages of the Chodavaram division and 9 villages of the Bhadrachalam taluk and the system was continued in the other areas of the Agency in which it was already in force. Agency

There was no change in the areas in which the sweet juice rules were in force and those in which tapping for sweet juice is not under control.

The number of cases of illicit manufacture of toddy showed a further increase from 7,981 to 8,535. The illicit manufacture and sale of "sonti soru" in Madras continued. A special establishment was employed during the year to put down the crime. Offences

Foreign liquor

260. The rates of duty on locally made foreign liquor and on imported spirits remained unaltered during the year. There was an increase in the consumption of "spirits" and beer and a small decrease under wines. The increase under spirits was due to the better classes acquiring a taste for such drinks and that under beer to the deficient supply of toddy in some areas. The consumption of locally made foreign liquor increased from 24,287 gallons to 29,674 gallons.

Spirituous medicinal preparations

The pharmaceutical laboratory opened at Madras by Messrs. Spencer & Co., Limited, for the manufacture of spirituous medicinal preparations continued to work during the year. Imports of spirituous medicinal preparations from Bangalore and Bengal showed an increase.

Revenue

The number of licences for the sale of foreign liquor for consumption on the premises was 28 and that for the sale of beer 26 as in the previous year. These were as usual sold by auction. One hundred and seventy-seven "off" retail licences were issued. The total revenue derived from foreign liquor was Rs. 15,09,666 as against Rs. 13,25,970 in the previous year.

Denatured spirits

The demand for denatured spirits for industrial works, lighting and stoves, increased from 32,397 gallons to 61,766 gallons. A dangerous practice of rendering denatured spirits potable by dilution and addition of lime juice has come to light and the question of effectively dealing with the practice is under consideration.

Intoxicating drugs

Ganja and bhang

261. Thirty-three licences were issued for the cultivation of ganja at Santaravur in the Guntūr district and 66 at Santhavasal in the North Arcot district. The outturn was 1,028 maunds of ganja and 27 maunds of bhang at Santaravur and 170 maunds of ganja and 53 maunds of bhang at Santavasal. Besides, 24 licences were issued for cultivation in 25 acres of land in Mathigiri village in the Hosur taluk of the Salem district, as an experimental measure to ascertain whether the conditions for the cultivation and storage of ganja in this taluk are to be preferred to those of the other two stations. The outturn per acre was much better than that at Santavasal. The special

staff entrusted with the work of investigating into the causes of deterioration of ganja and of devising means to prevent it continued its investigations. During the year Government sanctioned the scheme for the botanical investigation of ganja cultivation, including seed selection, for a period of three years. A special staff for this purpose was entertained and a seed farm of five acres was cultivated at Mathigiri under departmental supervision.

The rate of duty on ganja continued to be Rs. 22-8-0 per seer and that on bhang was raised from Rs. 6 to Rs. 7-8-0 per seer. The consumption of ganja, bhang and their preparations increased from 45,755 to 48,766 seers. The increase is due to the good quality of ganja produced and to greater check over smuggling. The total revenue derived from hemp drugs during the year amounted to Rs. 18·31 lakhs as compared with Rs. 16·94 lakhs in 1927-28. One hundred and seven cases of illicit cultivation of the hemp plant were detected during the year.

Two hundred and fifteen licences for the possession and sale of cocaine and its preparations were issued during the year. The retail sales amounted to 7 lb., 6 oz., 250 grains as against 4 lb., 10 oz., 195½ grains in the previous year. The increase was due to Government dispensaries in the Presidency getting their supplies from Messrs. Dadha & Co., Madras, instead of from the Government Medical Store Depot. Cocaine

262. Receipts on account of the sale of judicial stamps during the official year 1928-29 amounted to Rs. 1,45,31,987. There was a decrease of Rs. 1,82,128 compared with the receipts of the preceding year, which is attributed to the fall in litigation and to the increasing popularity of the panchayat courts. Stamps

Receipts on account of the sale of non-judicial stamps during the official year 1928-29 amounted to Rs. 1,05,84,814. The increase of Rs. 2,87,712 over the receipts of last year is generally attributed to increased transactions in land and house properties, improvement in foreign trade and a relaxation in the tightness of the money market.

CHAPTER VI

VITAL STATISTICS AND MEDICAL SERVICES

DETAILS OF CENSUS

263. *Vide* pages 209 to 219 of the Report on the administration of the Madras Presidency for the year 1921–22.

BIRTHS AND DEATHS (1928)

[*The Sixty-fifth Annual Report of the Director of Public Health for 1928; Report on the working of the Births, Deaths and Marriages Registration Act of 1886 during the year 1928–29; Statistical Abstract for British India—Vital Statistics*]

Population

264. Excluding Europeans and Anglo-Indians who numbered 34,328, the total population of the Presidency according to the census of 1921 was 42,759,827. On the basis of the previous inter-censal increase the population for 1928 is estimated at 43,495,200, while according to natural increase it amounts to 46,054,017.

Registration of vital statitics

265. The difference between these two figures is partly due to the fact that vital statistics are not furnished for about 18 lakhs representing the hill tribes of Ganjām and Vizagapatam districts and the inhabitants of the Laccadive Islands and of the Banganapalle and Pudukkōttai States and partly to defective registration. Although marked improvement in the registration and compilation of vital statistics has been an outstanding feature of the reorganization of the Public Health department, yet the work suffers from serious defects, one of which is the incomplete enumeration of births and deaths, especially in the rural areas. During 1928, 76,533 unregistered births were detected by the district health staff. Failure of village headmen to submit monthly statements was still

a chief cause of the inaccuracies of the district returns. Although registration is compulsory in municipal areas some municipalities have not paid much attention to this branch of work, as is evidenced by the low birth-rates returned by them.

Births

266. The total number of births registered during the year was 1,534,445 as against 1,495,747 in 1927. The birth-rate for the year calculated on the census population of 1921 is 37·4 and is the highest on record for several years past, although it has not yet approximated the average rate of 42·5 for the Presidency. In rural areas the registered birth-rate was 36·4 per mille as compared with 36·7 in the previous year. In municipalities the average registered birth-rate was 40·1 as against 39·4 in the previous year and 37·8 for the quinquennial average.

Deaths

267. The total number of deaths (1,080,744) from all causes during the year was the highest on record for the quinquennium. The recorded death-rate rose from 24·3 to 26·4 per mille on the 1921 census population and it was 23·5 per mille when calculated with reference to the estimated natural increase in population. The death-rates for municipal and rural areas rose from 30·6 and 24·0 to 33·7 to 25·2 respectively. The infantile death rate during the year under review was 184·2 per mille of the registered births as against 175·4 in 1927, the maximum being recorded by the Kurnool district and the minimum by Rāmnād district. The rate also rose in municipal towns from 186·7 to 202·5. The increase in the number of deaths was most noticeable under cholera, fevers and "all other causes."

Chief diseases

Cholera

268. With the exception of the Nilgiris and Malabar, which may be said to have beenp ractically free, every district was infected by cholera during the year. There was a marked increase in mortality from 35,334 during 1927 to 57,677. The death-rates for 1927 and 1928 were 0·9 and 1·4 respectively against the quinquennial average of 0·8 per mille. Eight districts accounted for over 63 per cent of the total mortality and the mortality rates were over 2 per mille in nine districts. Compared with 1927 the

increase in the death-rate was most noticeable in the districts of Cuddapah, Kurnool and Chingleput. The minimum incidence was recorded during the second quarter of the year and the maximum during the third quarter. Eighteen municipalities were entirely free from cholera and 17 others had less than 10 deaths each. The 64 infected municipalities recorded 3,745 deaths as against 3,446 in 1927. Effective measures were taken to combat the disease. Anti-cholera inoculation gave ample proof of its protective value, the death among the inoculated being 0·30 per mille and that among the uninoculated 4·86. In spite of the very large demands for anti-cholera vaccine on account of the simultaneous outbreak of cholera in several districts, the King Institute was able to comply with the requisitions promptly. The response of the local bodies to the requisitions of the district health officers for medicines and staff was on the whole satisfactory.

Smallpox

The mortality from smallpox fell from 7,781 in 1927 to 7,618 in 1928. Although no district was free from smallpox there has been a progressive decline in mortality during the last three years. Twenty-eight municipalities recorded less than 10 deaths each and 39 were entirely free. More than 50 per cent of the deaths in municipalities during the year occurred in Madras, Calicut and Mannargudi. Sixty-four rural towns registered 306 deaths from smallpox as against 377 deaths in 72 towns in the previous year. The number of deaths among children under one year of age was 40 per cent of the total showing that primary vaccination still requires great improvement.

Plague

There were 2,106 deaths from plague during the year as compared with 2,457 in 1927. The death-rate is 0·1 per mille. Eighteen districts were entirely free. The largest number of deaths was as before in Madura and Bellary, which were responsible for about 67 per cent of the total mortality in the affected districts. Of the 12 municipalities affected, Hindupur, which had been free for a long time, returned the highest death-rate of 3·9 per mille while Bellary and Bodinayakkanur also fared badly. The death-rate in Hospet, where plague

had been most virulent in previous years, fell from 4·7 to 0·3. Eight rural towns registered 53 deaths during the year as compared with seven towns with 440 deaths in 1927.

Malaria

The Special Malaria Officer carried out anti-malarial investigations in six municipalities and in selected areas in nine districts. The scheme of free distribution of quinine, as judged from its progress during the year, has been successful. A District Health Officer trained in malariology was appointed during the year to be in charge of anti-malarial measures to be carried out in four selected areas in the Gudem Agency of the Vizagapatam district.

Respiratory diseases

The total number of deaths registered under respiratory diseases was 90,012 or 2·2 per mille as compared with 81,277 or 2·0 per mille in 1927, the quinquennial average being 1·8. It is proposed to make a detailed investigation of the statistics of individual districts and towns where increased rates have been recorded to determine the causes of the increase.

Hookworm

At the beginning of the year under report the Government took over the work of the Rockefeller Foundation which had been conducting a campaign against hookworm in the Presidency. A first-class health officer has been placed in charge of the work. As in previous years attention was devoted to educational work such as lectures, lantern demonstrations, etc., treatment and prevention of soil pollution.

Child-births

269. There was a further increase in the number of deaths registered as being due to or arising from child-birth from 7,902 to 11,150. The increase is only apparent and is due to improved registration of causes of death. Only 3·2 per cent of the confinements in rural areas received skilled aid and 39 per cent in municipalities. The number of maternity and child-welfare centres in the Presidency has increased from 55 in 1927 to 69 in the year under review. A preliminary research of maternal mortality and certain phases of infant mortality was carried out during the year and the investigation is being continued in order that

sufficient figures may be collected for a detailed statistical study of the problem.

Europeans and European British subjects

270. Under the Births, Deaths and Marriages Registration Act, 1886, which provides for the registration of Europeans and European British subjects and also of other classes such as Jews and Indian Christians, 64 births and 41 deaths were registered during the year as compared with 62 births and 36 deaths in the previous year. One hundred and twenty-seven births and 58 deaths of Europeans and European British subjects were registered under the Madras City Municipal Act, the District Municipalities Act and the Cantonment Code.

EMIGRATION AND IMMIGRATION (1928)

[*Report on the working of the Indian Emigration Act, 1922, for the year 1928; Statistical Abstract for British India—Emigration*]

General

271. The emigration of unskilled labour from this Presidency is confined by the Indian Emigration Act to Malaya and Ceylon. The total number of persons who sailed for Malaya as assisted labourers was 30,134 (10,767 from Madras and 19,367 from Negapatam) as compared with 133,007 in 1927. Of these 2,288 from Madras and 3,869 from Negapatam were non-emigrants. This remarkable diminution in the number of emigrants is attributed to the decline in the demand for labour, reimposition of restrictions on the production of rubber, prevalence of cholera in several of the recruiting districts and to the more favourable character of the season in this Province. The flow of labour to Ceylon, on the other hand, was not far below the high figure of recent years. 133,712 labourers emigrated as compared with 161,000 in 1927 which was a record year. The seasonal conditions in the recruiting districts and the slight drop in the demand for labour in Ceylon account for the small decrease.

Health

The health of the emigrants was on the whole good. There were no epidemics in any of the places of accommodation.

Five thousand four hundred and sixty-six were repatriated or assisted to return from Malaya of whom 3,392 were sick and therefore unable to work. The total number who returned from Malaya cannot be stated definitely as many of them pay their own passages and travel as ordinary passengers. The total number of emigrants who returned from Ceylon during the year was 97,031, of whom 3,433 were repatriated. The chief reason for return from Ceylon was the unsuitability of the climate. Hundred and fifty-nine labourers were repatriated from Mauritius, 443 from Fiji and 62 from British Guiana. Under the Voluntary Repatriation Scheme 2,731 emigrants returned from South Africa as against 2,387 in the previous year. Many of the returned emigrants were able to buy lands in their villages with the help of their bonus and savings. Employment was found for some on tea estates and two men were given clerical posts in Government offices.

Returning emigrants

MEDICAL RELIEF (1928)

[*Annual Report on the working of the Civil Hospitals and Dispensaries in the Madras Presidency for the year 1928; Report on the working of Mental Hospitals for the year 1928; Annual Reports of the Medical College, Madras, and the Medical College, Vizagapatam, for the year 1928-29; Annual Report on the working of the Medical Schools for the year 1928-29; Annual Report of the Director of the Pasteur Institute, Coonoor, for the year ending 28th February 1929; Report of the King Institute of Preventive Medicine, Guindy, for 1928-29; Statistical Abstract for British India—Vital Statistics—Hospitals*]

Medical institutions

272. The total number of medical institutions of all classes at the end of the year 1928 was 1,089 as compared with 1,038 in the previous year. Of these 1,037 were general institutions and 52 were exclusively for the treatment of women and children. The following table shows the different classes of institutions at work at the close of the year as compared with the previous year :—

	1927.	1928.
1. State-public institutions	69	176
2. Local fund institutions	791	731

	1927.	1928.
3. Private institutions aided by the State	31	34
4. Private institutions not aided by the State	68	69
5. Railway medical institutions ...	52	52
6. State-private institutions (for special departments of Government, e.g., the police and special sections of the public)... ...	27	27

During the year under report the Government took over the entire management of 96 local fund and municipal medical institutions, situated mostly at taluk headquarters, and 10 institutions for women and children for development as up-to-date centres of medical and surgical treatment. This accounts for the large increase in the number of State-public institutions and the decrease in that of local fund institutions. The transfer gave immediate relief to the local bodies to the extent of over Rs. 10 lakhs a year and also defined the responsibilities of the Government and the local bodies in the matter of providing medical relief in the mufassal. In pursuance of the scheme of subsidising medical practitioners who agreed to settle down in selected villages and afford free treatment to the poor, 47 rural dispensaries were opened in 1928. The number of rural dispensaries working at the end of the year was 326. The amount of the subsidy was enhanced from Rs. 400 to Rs. 500 a year in the case of licensed medical practitioners and the subsidy of midwives has been raised from Rs. 100 to Rs. 300 a year, and it is hoped that before long the problem of bringing medical relief to the doors of the rural population would have been solved to a great extent.

Medical relief

There was a general increase in the volume of medical relief afforded during the year. The number of patients treated in the State-public, local fund and municipal and private institutions rose from 10,623,920 in 1927 to 11,159,351 in the year under report. The number of indoor patients increased from 170,966 to 181,216 and that of out-patients from 10,452,954 to 10,978,135. Of the in-patients 114,446 were cured, 32,902 were relieved, 19,905 were discharged for other reasons and 9,592

died, the death-rate being 5·29 as compared with 5 9 per cent in the previous year. The number of beds available during the year was 8,887 (4,937 for males and 3,950 for females) as against 8,349 in 1927. The principal diseases treated were diseases of the digestive and respiratory systems and diseases of the eye and the areolar tissue. The total number treated for malaria in 1928 was 1,016,239 with 199 deaths as compared with 834,794 with 292 deaths in 1927. There was also a marked increase in the number of patients treated for leprosy and for various venereal diseases.

The number of operations performed during the year was 457,538 as against 428,749 in the previous year. The number of major operations also increased from 33,363 to 40,184.

The total receipts during the year amounted to Rs. 66,88,660 and the total expenditure to Rs. 66,58,185 as compared with Rs. 62,30,727 and Rs. 62,24,465, respectively, in the previous year. Finance

273. The total number of mental patients under treatment at the Mental Hospitals at Madras, Calicut and Waltair during the year under report was 1,595 (including 195 criminals) as compared with 1,512 in the previous year. The principal types of insanity in their order of frequency were mania, dementia præcox, melancholia, insanity due to cannabis indica, insanity due to alcohol and delusional insanity. The total number of deaths in these hospitals showed a very slight increase, being 83 as compared with 80 in 1927. The mental hospitals were regularly inspected by both official and non-official visitors. **Mental hospitals**

There was an appreciable rise in the total receipts including those from paying patients from Rs. 4,69,301 in 1927 to Rs. 4,93,338 in 1928. The charges under establishment proper showed an increase in all the three hospitals as compared with the previous year. The increase is due to additions to the staff made during the year and revision of pay of the attendants. The grant of special pay to the nursing staff and periodical increments also contributed to the increase in the Mental Hospital, Madras. The charges under diet also increased in the three hospitals. Finance

VITAL STATISTICS AND MEDICAL SERVICES

The Committee appointed towards the end of 1928 to examine and report on the future of medical education in the Presidency submitted a very comprehensive report which is under the consideration of Government.

Medical education

274. The special features of the year in the Medical College, Madras, were the formation of a pharmacological research unit and the appointments of an additional professor of medicine, full-time professors of physiology and bacteriology in place of part-time professors, a specialist in venereal diseases recruited from England in the place of a lecturer and three new assistant professors in biochemistry, hygiene and medical jurisprudence.

Medical College, Madras

There were 664 students on the rolls of the college as compared with 693 in the previous year. The number of lady students increased from 71 to 76. The total percentage of passes in all the examinations of the M.B.B.S. and L.M.S. courses was 42·4 as against 48·8 in the previous year, due mainly to the comparatively larger number of failures in the final L.M.S., Part II examination. A commission appointed by the Madras University inspected the college in January 1929.

Medical College, Vizagapatam

A demonstrator was replaced by an assistant professor during the year. The strength of the college rose from 129 in 1927–28 to 148 in the year under report. The percentage of passes at the final examinations was 31·6.

Medical schools

During the year there were three medical schools for men at Madras (Rayapuram), Tanjore and Coimbatore and one Government medical school for women at Madras. The school at Coimbatore provides training at present only for the first two years of the courses of study. The others are complete medical schools. The total number of pupils studying in the schools was 813 as against 936 in the previous year. The results in the final qualifying examination were not so satisfactory as in the previous year. The proposal to open a medical school at Guntūr has been deferred pending the consideration of the report of the Medical Education Committee.

Pasteur Institute

275. The number of patients treated in the Institute during the year was 465 as compared

with 394 in the previous year. This increase is accounted for by the high incidence of rabies among dogs and jackals in the Nilgiri district. Advice without treatment was given to 155 persons. The number of persons treated at local centres other than Coonoor was 5,837 as against 4,788 in the previous year. Of the total number of 6,302 patients treated, 9 died during treatment, 14 less than fifteen days and 35 more than fifteen days after the completion of the treatment.

276. The King Institute of Preventive Medicine, Guindy, continued to manufacture and distribute vaccine lymph, to distribute bacterial vaccine and sera, to examine specimens and to test samples of food and water. The total number of vaccine doses issued during the year was 2,258,226 as against 2,211,795 in the previous year. Owing to a widespread epidemic of cholera during the year under report there was considerable increase in the demand for cholera vaccine, and 1,064,490 doses were issued as compared with 727,000 in 1927-28. There was an increase in the supply of autogenous vaccine in spite of the fact that the General Hospital makes its own autovaccines. The number of Wassermann tests during the year was 16,081 as against 16,071 in 1927-28 and besides more than 2,000 Kahn tests were carried out. The fee for the Wassermann test in respect of cases sent by medical practitioners in Madras City was, as an experimental measure, reduced from Rs. 32 to Rs. 5. **The King Institute of Preventive Medicine**

As in the previous year the samples of foodstuff analysed were mostly hospital tenders and only a few were from private individuals. In addition to the periodical examination of samples of water from all protected water-supplies in the Presidency a very large number of examinations were made during the year in connexion with the Experimental Filter Station at Kilpauk. The results of the investigations were reported to Government and specific recommendations were formulated for improving the quality of the city water-supply. A rat-flea survey of different parts of the Presidency was commenced and various other special investigations were conducted

including research work in filariasis in all its aspects.

Health propaganda

277. During the year 108,997 lectures (excluding magic lantern demonstrations) were delivered in over 50,000 centres to audiences totalling nearly 67 lakhs. This represents an increase of about 17,200 lectures, 9,000 centres and an audience of 9 lakhs as compared with 1927. The steady increase in the attendance shows that the lectures are gaining in popularity. The cinema was used to a greater extent to educate the masses in health problems. There were 293 cinema shows on subjects relating to public health in 1928. Two new films were purchased during the year for the propaganda section. Health propaganda in schools has been receiving the special attention of the health staff.

National Health and Baby Week

278. The Health Week was celebrated with great enthusiasm throughout the whole Presidency. The Irwin cup for the best Health Week in India was awarded to the Penukonda union. The union also occupied the second place in the competition for the Health Week celebration in the whole of the British Empire. The towns of Tuticorin and Chingleput were among the seven places commended.

SANITATION (1928)

[*The thirty-ninth Annual Report of the Sanitary Engineer to Government and the sixty-fifth Annual Report of the Director of Public Health for the year 1928*]

Municipalities Water-supply and drainage schemes

279. During the year under report no new water-supply scheme was brought into operation. Thirty-two municipalities are now provided with protected water-supply. The Vellore drainage scheme was completed and handed over to the municipality, while the Madura drainage scheme was completed except for a few minor works. Nine water-supply schemes and improvements to four others were under execution by the Public

Works department. Works for the improvement of water-supply at Periyakulam, Vizagapatam, Vizianagram, Bezwada, Tirupati, Guntūr and Ongole were entrusted to municipalities for execution. The Gobichettipalaiyam water-supply scheme was sanctioned during the year and the financing of four schemes for which plans and estimates had been prepared was under the consideration of Government. Besides, plans and estimates were under preparation for 16 water-supply and drainage schemes (including improvements to certain existing works) relating to local bodies. The investigation of various other schemes was completed during the year. Three reports on the experiments conducted regarding filtration of water and the valuable results obtained were submitted to Government.

Conservancy

Although the number of sanitary inspectors employed during the year rose from 227 to 233, it is below the scale recommended in G.O. No. 760 M., dated 16th April 1914. The number of public latrines of all descriptions in municipal areas was almost the same as in 1927. Private latrines numbered 175,042 as compared with 172,208 in the previous year, and of these nearly 85 per cent were conserved by municipal agency.

Finance

According to the information furnished by municipalities, the total allotment for sanitation amounted to 27 per cent of their total income and the expenditure during the nine months in the year for which information is available was 30 per cent of the allotment. The main items of expenditure were improvements to water-supply, construction and repairs of drains, conservancy and the upkeep and maintenance of hospitals for the treatment of infectious diseases in six municipalities.

Rural areas

280. With few exceptions the public health administration of unions was unsatisfactory. Improvement of rural sanitation is receiving greater attention from the Public Health department. One water-supply scheme was opened, two were under execution and three sanctioned during the year. Four drainage schemes were under execution and one sanctioned. Besides numerous

water-supply and drainage schemes were under investigation.

Fairs and festivals

As in previous years the sanitary arrangements at important fairs and festivals were supervised personally by officers of the department. Although the majority of the festivals went off successfully, those at Bhadrachalam, Tiruchanur and Tirupati and one in the Cuddapah district were followed by widespread outbreaks of cholera.

VACCINATION (1928–29)

[*Annual Report on vaccination in the Madras Presidency for the year 1928–29; Statistical Abstract for British India—Vital Statistics—Vaccination*]

General

281. The administration of vaccination in rural areas continued to be vested in taluk and union boards. With a view to ensure more centralized and efficient administration, its transfer to the district boards has been proposed in the draft amendments to the Local Boards Act.

Glycérine lymph was used throughout the Presidency during the year and the results obtained have been quite satisfactory, the percentage of successes in all operations being 79·5 as against 79·0 in the previous year. The King Institute issued lymph for 2,118,035 cases to district boards and municipalities. During the months when routine vaccination was suspended, the health staff continued to check vital statistics and vaccination records, to detect unregistered births and unprotected cases. About 316,000 unprotected cases were detected during the year. Local bodies do not yet seem to have fully realized the importance of vaccination. A few granted leave to their vaccinators during the off-season without appointing substitutes. The unprotected register was either not maintained or maintained badly by union boards, and some presidents of local boards were reluctant to sanction prosecutions recommended by district health officers. The number of first-class vaccinators employed during 1928–29 was 21 less than

that in the previous year. On the other hand the number of second-class vaccinators increased from 459 to 502 and a female vaccinator for the gosha community was employed in Malabar with useful results.

Operations

282. The effects of anti-vaccination campaign were not felt to any serious extent in the year under report. Vaccination is at present compulsory almost throughout the rural areas in 17 districts and in portions of the other 8 districts. The total number of operations performed in districts during the year was 1,764,500 as compared with 1,755,466 in 1927-28. Excluding Karaikudi, which was constituted a municipality during the year, the number of operations performed in municipalities increased from 190,478 to 212,482. The improvement in the number vaccinated was most noticeable in the districts of Malabar, South Kanara, Tanjore, Nilgiris and Tinnevelly and in the municipalities of Madura, Calicut, Trichinopoly and Kurnool. The percentage of successes in the primary and secondary vaccinations in rural areas increased from 95·8 in 1927–28 to 96·4 in the year under report and in municipal areas from 98·8 to 98·9.

A satisfactory feature is the steady improvement in infantile vaccination, the number of children under one year of age successfully vaccinated in the year being 701,661 as compared with 689,422 in the previous year.

The total expenditure incurred on all vaccination establishments—Government, local fund, municipal and cantonment—was Rs. 6·42 lakhs as against Rs. 6·11 lakhs in the previous year. The average cost of each successful case was As. 7–1 as compared with As. 6–8 in the previous year. The slight increase in the cost per case is partly due to the employment of additional health inspectors.

CHAPTER VII

INSTRUCTION

GENERAL SYSTEM OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

283. *Vide* pages 228 to 244 of the Report on the administration of the Madras Presidency for the year 1921-22.

EDUCATION (1928-29)

[*Report of the Director of Public Instruction for the year 1928-29; Statistical Abstract for British India—Education.*]

General

284. The outstanding event of the year was the establishment of a new University at Chidambaram known as the Annamalai University. The Inspection Commission appointed under the Madras University Act, 1923, and the Tamil University Committee presented their reports during the year. Government passed orders on some of the recommendations of the Secondary Education Reorganization Committee, which submitted its report in 1927. The Committee appointed by Government to consider questions relating to physical education in secondary schools for boys submitted its report during the latter half of the year. Two committees were also appointed to consider the same subject in relation to girls' schools and the elementary schools for boys and another committee to advise Government on the question of starting a fine arts class in the School of Arts and Crafts, Madras. The Committee appointed to revise the course for the Secondary School-leaving Certificate Examination finished the major portion of its work during the year. As an experimental measure compulsory elementary education was introduced in the Saidapet taluk in respect of all boys of school-going age. Adult education received greater attention during

the year. Among the steps for the furtherance of women's education may be mentioned the opening of 500 more elementary schools for girls, five higher elementary training schools for women and two of the lower elementary grade for Muhammadan women. In April 1928, a summer school of geography was conducted at the Teachers' College, Saidapet. The Government School of Engineering at Trichinopoly was abolished from the 1st April 1928. The construction of the Science Block in Queen Mary's College, Madras, was completed during the year. A Conference of District Educational Officers was held in January 1929 and the greater part of the discussions related to elementary education. The Education Committee of the Indian Statutory Commission spent a week in Madras in October.

Statistics

285. The number of public institutions rose from 53,625 to 56,013 and their strength from 2,586,544 to 2,729,237. The increase represented 4·4 per cent in the number of schools and 5·5 in their strength. There was a considerable fall in the number of private institutions and in their strength. Taking public and private institutions together, the number of institutions increased by 1,823, and their strength by 132,084. The percentage of those under instruction to the total population was 6·6 as compared with 6·2 in the previous year.

University and collegiate education

286. The Annamalai University Act was passed and some of its clauses were put into force. A contribution of Rs. 27 lakhs was paid from Provincial funds.

Annamalai University

Andhra University

The Andhra University Act was amended with a view to making Vizagapatam the University headquarters. As a consequence, the institutions in the Ceded Districts and Chittoor were excluded from the jurisdiction of the University. The study of a vernacular was made compulsory in the Intermediate course.

Madras University

In the Madras University the courses in medicine were improved and revised and a course for the degree of Bachelor of Commerce was instituted. Part-time teachers in French and

German were appointed and some of the Colleges are offering instruction in Indian music for the Intermediate class. With reference to Mr. Buck's report on physical education each college was required to depute a graduate to the Y.M.C.A. National School of Physical Education to undergo training for nine months on a stipendiary grant of Rs. 50 per mensem, the University having agreed to meet two-thirds of the expenses from its own funds. During the year Parts I to IV of Volume III of the Tamil Lexicon were published.

There were 360 recruits in the University Training Corps during the year. An attempt was made to train Non-Commissioned officers to accept responsibility and to help in giving instruction to the men under their charge and this resulted in increased eagerness and better understanding of discipline by all ranks. The Corps was inspected in camp by Brigadier R. B. Worgan, who was pleased with all he saw.

Statistics

During the year the Hindu High School, Masulipatam, was raised to the status of a second-grade college. The strength of all the arts colleges for men increased from 12,427 in 1927-28 to 12,944 in the year under report. Though the L.T. Class attached to the St. Joseph's College, Trichinopoly, was abolished, the strength of all the professional colleges increased from 2,260 to 2,324.

Secondary education

287. The number of public schools for Indian boys increased from 526 to 528. Twelve new secondary schools were opened, eight were closed and two were reduced to the primary grade. The number of pupils in them rose from 165,493 to 169,844. The number of girls reading in these schools was 3,113. The number of candidates who appeared for the Secondary School-leaving Certificate Examination increased from 17,171 to 17,548. The courses of study for the examination were revised during the year and the first examination under the new scheme will be held in 1932.

Government passed orders during the year that grants from public funds should be withheld from educational institutions which refuse admission

to pupils belonging to particular castes or communities. The total expenditure on secondary schools for Indian boys rose from Rs. 74·36 lakhs to Rs. 79·22 lakhs, to which public funds contributed 32 per cent and fees 52 per cent. The average cost of educating a pupil was Rs. 45-6-0 against Rs. 44-5-0 in the previous year. Each pupil paid an average fee of Rs. 23-7-0.

Elementary education

288. The number of public elementary schools for boys increased from 48,407 to 50,096 and their strength from 2,094,138 to 2,193,845, or 4·8 per cent. The percentage of male pupils to the total male population in the Presidency was 9·6 as against 8·7 in the previous year. The total number of teachers employed in public schools rose from 87,978 to 91,762 or by 4·3 per cent, while the number of trained teachers among them increased from 43,002 to 45,538, that is by 2,536. There were 830 buildings constructed for elementary schools during the year, of which 201 were for schools under public management.

Sanction was accorded for the opening of 687 board elementary schools for boys, involving an annual recurring expenditure of Rs. 1,97,316, in school-less centres with a population of 500 and above. Funds were also placed at the disposal of the District Educational Councils to enable them to accord supplemental admission to aid to 96 new elementary schools under private management. To reduce the number of single-teacher schools, subsidies were granted to local bodies for the appointment of additional staff in the existing schools. Efforts are also being made to bring home to local bodies, especially in urban areas, the need for a small number of large schools as tending both to economy and efficiency.

Special education

289. A satisfactory feature of the year was the substantial increase in the number of students undergoing training in the Government training schools from 7,290 in 1927-28 to 8,737 in 1928-29. A Government training school was opened at Bezwada and additional training sections in the Government training schools at Bimlipatam, Anantapur, Tanjore and Cannanore. The number

of aided schools decreased from 24 to 23, owing to the abolition of the training class attached to the Thirthapati High School, Ambasamudram. The number of sessional schools under the management of the District Boards also decreased from 9 to 8. The Government School of Engineering at Trichinopoly was abolished, the classes therein being transferred to the College of Engineering, Guindy. Manual training classes in 27 institutions were sanctioned during the year and the scheme of training for the manual training instructors in the Teachers' College, Saidapet, was revised.

Female education

290. The number of institutions solely intended for Indian girls rose from 4,273 to 4,938, and their strength from 280,200 to 315,701. There were 635,207 girls attending all grades of institutions as compared with 585,339 in the previous year. The number of arts colleges for women remained stationary, but the strength in them decreased from 421 to 376. However there was an increase in the number of women students reading in arts colleges for men from 84 to 112. The number of women reading in the medical colleges rose from 62 to 74. During the year there were 67 secondary schools for girls with a strength of 14,556. On the whole 17,267 girls were receiving secondary education during the year. The number of elementary schools for girls rose from 4,044 to 4,722 and their strength from 260,390 to 294,678. The number of girls reading in boys' schools increased from 302,080 to 318,156. Government training schools intended for women increased in number from 20 to 28. A new aided training school for women was opened at Triplicane. The total number of training schools for women under all managements was 50 as against 41 in the previous year. The number of women under training also rose from 1,973 to 2,379. The course of training for physical training instructresses was modified so as to make it more up to date. Five candidates were trained at the Lady Willingdon Training College under the revised scheme and four were declared eligible for diplomas.

European education

291. The total number of institutions intended for Europeans fell from 85 to 84 on account of the amalgamation of the Bishop Corrie High School with Doveton Boys' High School. The Railway School at Negapatam was closed and a new primary school was opened at Golden Rock. The strength of the schools increased from 10,363 to 10,536. But the number of students attending arts and professional colleges decreased from 116 in 1927-28 to 106 in the year under review. There were 189 candidates examined for European High School Examination and 222 for the Middle School; and of these, 121 and 135 respectively passed. A satisfactory feature was the increase in the number of trained teachers employed in the schools.

The European School-leaving Certificate Board was reconstituted with a view to including representatives of the Universities. The Training School for European teachers at Lovedale was closed with effect from January 1929 and was reopened at Madras, the Doveton Committee taking over its management.

Education of Muhammadans

292. The number of public institutions specially intended for Muhammadans increased from 3,464 to 3,692 and their strength from 202,227 to 217,262. The number and the strength of the private institutions decreased slightly. Four hundred and thirty-one Muhammadan students were reading in arts colleges as against 396 in the previous year, but the number reading in professional colleges decreased from 78 to 66. The total number of Muhammadan pupils in secondary schools for Indians rose from 10,158 to 10,710. There was a considerable increase in the number of elementary schools for Mappillas and in their strength, while girls' schools nearly doubled in number. To increase the number of trained Mappilla teachers, an additional lower elementary training class was opened in the Government Training School, Malappuram.

Education of Adi-Dravidas, Adi-Andhras and other backward classes

293. The number of public institutions chiefly intended for Ādi-Drāvidas and Ādi-Āndhras was 10,874 as against 10,429 in 1927-28 and their strength increased from 302,804 to 312,515. There

was an increase of 14 per cent in the number of Ādi-Drāvida and Ādi-Āndhra scholars in public schools. The number of pupils belonging to depressed classes admitted into schools under public management not specially intended for them in the non-Agency tracts increased by 3,344, while their number in the Agency tracts increased by 490. The number of elementary schools intended for hill and aboriginal tribes fell from 339 to 332, but their strength increased from 9,519 to 9,525. The total number of pupils belonging to the aboriginal tribes under instruction in all classes of institutions in the Presidency was 21,767 as against 22,596 in the previous year. The number of pupils belonging to the criminal tribes under instruction increased from 15,325 to 17,529. There were 19 schools exclusively for Chenchus in the Kurnool district and 73 for the hill and aboriginal tribes in the Nilgiris.

Deaf and dumb schools

The school for the blind and the deaf mutes under the management of the Corporation of Madras was permanently recognized. There was a general increase in the number of pupils attending the deaf and dumb schools in the city. A class in woodwork was opened for the benefit of the boys in the Deaf and Dumb School, Graeme's Road.

Miscellaneous

294. During the year under report sanction was accorded for the opening of adult education classes through the agency of non-official and honorary workers. Such classes were held at nine centres throughout the year. In addition to the teaching of the three R's there were talks on hygiene, civics and topics of general interest illustrated by lantern slides wherever necessary. The classes were also provided with libraries and reading rooms. Adult education classes were as usual held in the four Government institutions at Saidapet, Rajahmundry, Palghat and Coimbatore. In addition, an experimental scheme of adult education was introduced in the Trichinopoly district, under which deputy inspectors were required to give lectures with the help of an optical lantern and slides on subjects like education, agriculture, hygiene and industries, at the Teachers'

Association centres and other convenient places. The scheme was tried for three months in the Karur taluk and has proved a success. Thirty-five centres were visited and 45 lantern lectures delivered. In all 5,600 persons attended the lectures.

The scout movement has not only taken a deep root in secondary schools but has also spread to villages and there are now in the Presidency about 13,000 scouts of all ranks. Two camp-sites were granted to the Boy Scouts Association, one at St. Thomas' Mount and the other near Mount Pleasant, Coonoor. The Association sent twelve scouts and scouters as representatives of the Madras Province to the International Jamboree held at Birkenhead. The Girl Guides movement also made considerable progress during the year.

295. The total expenditure on education rose from Rs. 478·91 lakhs to Rs. 545·75 lakhs. The increase was contributed by both public and private funds. The proportion which public and private funds bore to total expenditure was 63 and 37 per cent respectively. The total direct expenditure rose from Rs. 362·85 lakhs to Rs. 396·86 lakhs, 80 per cent of the increase being met by public funds. The amount spent on schools managed by local and municipal boards increased by Rs. 4·77 lakhs. Indirect expenditure increased from Rs. 116·06 lakhs to Rs. 148·88 lakhs, the large increase being mainly due to grants to universities. The provincial subsidies to local boards, inclusive of the amounts placed at the disposal of the district educational councils and the Registrar-General of Panchayats, for elementary education rose from Rs. 128·65 lakhs in 1927–28 to Rs. 137·94 lakhs in the year under review. Finance

GOVERNMENT EXAMINATIONS

[*Commissioner's Report for the year 1928–29*]

296. Twelve examinations were held during the year as against 14 in the previous year. The total number of candidates registered for these examinations held at 662 centres was 41,931, of General

whom 39,967 were actually examined. There was a slight decrease in the number of candidates for the European School and Physical Training Certificate examinations while all the other examinations showed an appreciable increase. The increase was specially noticeable in the examinations for the Secondary School-leaving Certificate and the Training School-leaving Certificate. Particulars relating to each examination are given below :—

Number.	Name of examination.	Number of candidates registered.	Number of candidates examined.	Number of centres.
1	Secondary School-leaving Certificate Public Examination	18,145	17,891	357
2	Training School-leaving Certificate Examination	10,371	10,042	110
3	Deputy Inspectors' Test Examination ...	*293	*232	19
4	Government Technical Examinations ..	*9,214	*8,485	62
5	Public Examination at the end of the Advanced Course of Studies in Sanskrit Schools	384	356	15
6	Special Test Examinations, June	*1,265	*993	27
7	Do. December ...	*1,656	*1,381	27
8	Technical Teachers' Certificate Examination	*120	*112	21
9	European School Examinations	418	411	20
10	Examination for Teachers' Certificates in Physical Training (for men) ...	26	26	1
11	Examination for Teachers' Certificates in Physical Training (for women) ...	5	5	1
12	Pandits' Training Certificate Examination.	28	27	1
13	Examination for the award of Certificates of competency to persons qualified to teach in schools for physically defective (blind and deaf-mute) children	6	6	1
	Total ...	41,931	39,967	662

* Number of subject-candidates.

Miscellaneous

The Secondary School-leaving Certificate Board was reconstituted and the Secondary School-leaving Certificate scheme was revised during the year. The essentials of the revised scheme are that all the subjects which admit of a public examination, being held in them are distributed between groups A and C, group B consisting only of those subjects in which a public examination is not possible. Group A now consists of five subjects, the two subjects newly added being

"Elementary Science" and "the Outlines of the History of England and India and Geography." Applied Art and Geography have been included as C group subjects. Fourteen pupils who were dependants or children of Indian soldiers and 107 pupils belonging to the depressed classes were admitted to the Secondary School-leaving Certificate examination without payment of fees. An additional technical examination in Co-operation and Auditing was sanctioned by Government to meet the requirements of the Co-operative department.

LAWRENCE MEMORIAL SCHOOL (1928–29)

297. The general tone of the school continued to be good and the results of the examinations were very satisfactory. His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief was one of the distinguished visitors to the school during the year. The total number of pupils on the rolls on the 31st March 1929 was 500 (313 boys and 187 girls). There were also 340 children registered and awaiting admission. Thirteen boys entered for the ten vacancies allotted to the school for Chepstow, two appeared for the Air Craft Apprentice Examination for the Royal Air Force and 24 for the entrance and final examinations of the Government Telegraph department and all these passed. Of the 25 pupils who sat for the Cambridge Examinations 19 passed, two with honours. In addition two pupils passed the Madras European High School Examination and four the Middle School Examination. Pupils

There were nine members of the Auxiliary Force and 169 cadets on the rolls. The results in the Imperial Challenge Shield Shooting Competition were even better than in the previous year. Great interest in games and sports was evinced and the inter-house matches in hockey, football and cricket were keenly contested. The number of Girl Guides and Blue Birds continued to increase and the Theobald Shield for Girl Guides in the Nilgiris was won for the second time in succession by the Lovedale Company. Physical and military training

The health of the school was quite satisfactory during the year. A new Girls' Hospital with increased bed accommodation, a staff ward and an up-to-date operation theatre were opened in February.

Training school

As it was found difficult to run the Training School for Europeans and Anglo-Indians at Lovedale, the school was transferred to Madras with effect from 1st January 1929. During the time the training school was at Lovedale, each year saw a distinct improvement in the results.

The total income of the year was Rs. 3·42 lakhs and the expenditure Rs. 3·56 lakhs.

LITERATURE AND THE PRESS (1928–29)

[*Statistical Abstract for British India—Printing Presses and Publications*]

Connemara Public Library

298. In June 1928, the University Library was removed from the Connemara Public Library premises to the Senate House. This naturally resulted in a fall in the number of visitors from 38,901 in 1927–28 to 27,619 in the year under report. On the other hand more space was made available for books, readers and staff and the current numbers of a large number of periodicals and magazines, hitherto kept in the racks for want of space, were displayed on the reading room tables. These magazine tables were very popular. Considerable progress was made in the general classification of the books and periodicals in the Library. The preparation of a consolidated author catalogue on cards is nearing completion. Proposals for extending the facilities for borrowing books and detailed rules in this regard have been approved by Government. Arrangements for giving effect to the lending scheme are under consideration. In spite of the fall in the number of visitors the number of volumes consulted rose from 41,500 to 41,757. Three hundred and eighty-one standard works, in 437 volumes, were added to the library of which 231 were purchased and 150 were presentations.

299. The number of manuscripts acquired during the year was 133. There were 4,197 visitors consulting 7,203 manuscripts and books in the library as against 4,133 visitors consulting 7,001 manuscripts and books in the previous year. The works consulted were mostly in Sanskrit, Tamil and Telugu. In addition to consultation of manuscripts and books in the library, 170 manuscripts and 196 printed books were lent to 52 persons and institutions interested in oriental learning. The preparation and printing of descriptive and triennial catalogues of manuscripts went on as usual. The general indexes relating to Malayalam and Kanarese manuscripts were printed and the others are either under preparation or in print. Certain rare and valuable manuscripts were sent to the Exhibition held at Lahore in connexion with the Fifth All-India Oriental Conference.

Oriental Manuscripts Library

300. There was a steady increase both in the number and in the strength of educational associations and reading rooms. During the year under report there were 2,289 teachers' associations with 109,456 members as against 2,154 associations with 99,631 members in 1927-28.

Educational associations and reading rooms

The number of reading rooms and literary societies was 1,108 of which 126 were registered.

301. Nearly 9,500 requisitions for papers and for information were received from the Secretariat, the Board of Revenue and other offices. Sixty-five of these involved prolonged search among the records. In addition there were 22 references from District Revenue Officers. One hundred and five volumes covering in all 26,772 pages were mended during the year. Two research scholars were permitted to have access to the records.

Madras Record Office (1928-29)

The "Diary and Consultation Books" for 1704, 1705, 1706 and 1707, the volumes of "Despatches from England," 1686—92, 1696—99, 1721—24 and 1724—27 and of "Despatches to England," 1711—14, and "Letters from Fort St. George," 1703-04 were issued during the year. "The Diary and Consultation Books" for 1708, 1709, 1710, 1711 and 1712, "Despatches from England," 1728-29 and

Publications

IN-STRUC-TION

"Despatches to England," 1719—27 and 1727—33 were struck off. "Despatches to England," 1714—18 was in page proof stage. Volumes of "Diary and Consultation Books" for the years 1713, 1714, 1715, 1716 and 1717 were edited during the year and those of 1718, 1719, 1720 and 1721 were partly edited. Public Sundries Volume No. 37 containing the journal of the voyage to the north-west coast of America by James Strange in 1785—87 with the correspondence connected with it was published. As regards the Baramahal Records, the Volume "Expenses" has been printed with the exception of the index, which is under preparation. The last volume of the Translation of the Ananda Ranga Pillai's Diary was issued during the year.

Periodicals (1928)

Statistics

302. During the year 1928, 310 newspapers were actually published in the Presidency, of which 109 appeared in the Madras City and 191 in the mufassal. Two newspapers were published in the Indian States and eight in Pondicherry and Karikal. Sixty-six of the journals were in English, 119 in Tamil, 49 in Telugu, 9 in Malayalam and 15 in Kanarese.

Tone of the press

There was very little change in the tone and the general outlook of the several leading journals during the year under report. Among the topics prominently discussed were the proceedings of the Indian National Congress which met at Madras and of the All-India Muslim League which met at Calcutta during the Christmas week of 1927, the reports of the Committee appointed by the All-Parties Conference, and of the Provincial Government on the working of the reforms, the address of His Excellency the Viceroy to the members of the Central Legislature on the Statutory Commission, the attitude to be assumed by Indians towards the Indian Statutory Commission, the resignations of Messrs. Ranganatha Mudaliyar and Arogyaswami Mudaliyar of their offices as Ministers, the Provincial Budget, the report of the Royal Commission on Agriculture, the Public Safety Bill, Mr. Haji's Bill for the reservation of coastal traffic for Indian vessels, and the attitude of the Indian Princes towards the political aspirations of British India. The hartal incidents in the city on 3rd February

1928 were generally deplored. A great deal of propaganda both for and against the passing of Mr. Sarda's Child Marriage Bill was carried on towards the end of the year.

Registration of books (1928-29)

303. During the year 3,732 books and 1,046 periodicals were registered as against 4,042 books and 991 periodicals in the previous year. Of the total number of publications registered, 1,113 were in English and other European languages, 3,100 were in vernaculars spoken in the province and 106 in the Indian classical languages. The output under "Religion" was as in previous years the largest, being 32 per cent of the total number of publications. About 31 per cent of the books were designed for educational purposes.

The style and character of the publications continued to be on progressive lines and their tone was generally unobjectionable.

LITERARY SOCIETIES

304. *Vide* pages 252 to 254 of the Report on the administration of the Madras Presidency for the year 1921-22.

ARTS AND SCIENCES (1928-29)

Government Museum

305. Steady progress was made in all sections during the year. The work in connexion with the flora of Madras City was finished and partly printed. Some of the specimens in the unnamed collection of Opiliones and Polychæta in the Zoological Section have been found to be entirely new to science. A special exhibition of the invertebrate littoral fauna of Krusadai Island was held in connexion with the Indian Science Congress. Progress was made in improving the invertebrate galleries and the section of musical instruments was also considerably improved. An account of the temple rituals and social customs of the Vaishnavite Brahmans was completed and a small collection of Stone-age remains were re-arranged and labelled. One thousand and forty-seven silver coins under 37 different dynasties have been

catalogued. Besides, several coins received under the Treasure Trove Act and by presentation were examined and identified. The account of the Buddhist sculptures from Goli was completed and the preparation of those of the Museum collection of bronzes and of the two Jain temples at Thiruparutikunram was continued. Re-arrangement of the Jain gallery was also completed during the year.

Visitors

The demonstrations which were being carried on in the Museum for the benefit of the teachers of the city were discontinued and the teachers themselves were allowed to conduct their pupils round the galleries on Saturday mornings. As compared with the previous year there was a decrease in the number of visitors. The Kannu Pongal festival attracted very large crowds, but the number of visitors on the day of the Dwadasi festival was much less than usual on account of very heavy rainfall.

Theatre

The Museum Theatre continued to be in great demand and was used on 48 occasions as against 41 in the previous year. The Madras Dramatic Society contributed ten performances and the Madras Musical Association four concerts.

Meteorology (1928-29)

306. A third-class Meteorological Observatory was opened at Coonoor. At the Madras Observatory a continuous record was maintained of the chief meteorological elements by self-recording instruments. In addition, the velocity and direction of upper winds at various heights were determined every day by pilot balloon observations. The Madras Daily Weather Report was issued throughout the year.

Astronomy

Kodaikānal Observatory

307. The Kodaikānal Observatory is devoted mainly to solar research work, but complete meteorological and seismometric records are also maintained. During the year 1928 the record of solar activity was continued as in former years.

The collection of spectroheliograms from foreign observatories for those days on which records could not be obtained at Kodaikānal was continued as part of the programme of the International Astronomical Union and the combined data were

taken into consideration in compiling and discussing statistics relating to prominence phenomena.

Photoheliograms were obtained on 333 days, spectroheliograms of the sun's disc in calcium light were obtained on 329 days, in hydrogen light on 302 days and of prominences on the limb on 297 days.

The sun in 1928 showed but slight increase of activity over the previous year, the mean daily number of spots showing an increase of only 2 per cent, the mean daily areas of prominences on the limb and those seen on the disc by absorption an increase of 8 per cent and prominence numbers a slight decrease.

The mean daily number of sun spots visible during 1928 was 4·9 in the mean latitude of 13°·0 in the northern and 13°·9 in the southern hemisphere. The prominence activity near the poles is practically confined to the northern hemisphere. The highest prominence ever recorded at Kodaikānal was photographed on the 19th November 1928 and had reached a height of 20·9 or 910,000 km. when clouds intervened.

Madras Observatory

Astronomical observations necessary for the maintenance of an accurate time service for the whole of India were made regularly. Wireless time signals broadcasted from Calcutta and some of the important stations such as Bordeaux, Rugby and Colombo were also recorded mainly for purposes of comparison with the local time determination. The time gun at Fort St. George failed on five occasions out of a total of 637, giving a percentage of success of 99·2. Two of these five failures were due to faults on the overhead line outside the Observatory. The gun was fired only at 12 noon between July 25th and October 19th, on account of the shortage of ammunition and other causes. The time ball at the harbour dropped correctly at 1 p.m. on all days except eight. On four of these occasions it dropped correctly at 2 p.m. The failures were due to interruption on the overhead line. The 16 hours roll of signals was sent daily to the Central Telegraph Office for distribution as usual through the entire telegraphic system.

CHAPTER VIII

ARCHÆOLOGY AND EPIGRAPHY (1928-29)

Archæology

308. A sum of Rs. 27,051-8-0 was spent on the conservation of ancient monuments in the Madras Presidency during the year under report. As usual, the heaviest expenditure was incurred at the Hampi Ruins in the Bellary district, the Seven Pagodas and the Gingee Fort. Some work was done on the Buddhist remains at Anakāpalle, Rāmatīrtham and Amarāvati. Most of the year's work was the usual annual rehabilitation consisting of the removal of rank vegetation, patch plaster repairs and the upkeep of compounds and roads; no special repairs of any importance were carried out during the year.

The excavations at Nagarjunikonda in the Palnad taluk of the Guntūr district were continued with very statisfactory results. No less than eleven Buddhist relic caskets, six of gold and five of silver, were discovered in the different ruined stupas explored. The relics discovered in the great stupa are of unusual interest as most of the inscriptions belonging to this monument expressly state that the stupa was built to enshrine a relic of the Buddha himself, and that the shrine was founded by a princess named Chāntisiri of the Ikshvāku dynasty which was ruling in this part of the Āndhra country in the 3rd century A.D. The relics consist of a tiny piece of bone, the size of a pea, in a small round gold box less than an inch in diameter, again contained in a silver casket shaped like a miniature stupa, and a few gold flowers, pearls, garnets and rock crystal beads. These were found in an ordinary earthenware pot filled with earth, with the great brick mound built over it. The latter is in the form of a wheel and measures 102 feet in diameter and must originally have stood about 60 feet in height. All the stupas-

—some of the smaller ones being only four feet in height—have been destroyed by treasure seekers, and it is only the fact that the Buddhists had probably anticipated it and had not placed the relics in the centre as was usually the custom, which led to their discovery. The relics in the great stupa were found on the north side close to the outer retaining wall and those in the other stupas also on the north or east side. A number of beautiful bas reliefs depicting scenes from the life of the Buddha were recovered from the different sites excavated. These have been collected and stored in a special enclosure on the site and two watchmen have been appointed to guard them and look after the ruined monasteries, chaityas and other buildings on the site.

309. During the year under review 547 inscriptions on stone and 22 on copper-plates were copied and examined. Among the copper-plate inscriptions, one belonging to about the 10th century A.D. is particularly noteworthy in that it gives the genealogy of the kings of the Sailōdbhava dynasty up to Dharmarāja, in whose reign it was issued and is the second record of that king so far brought to light. Another, which is dated in the Gāngēya year 221, is an Eastern Ganga charter and belongs to the time of Dēvēndravarman III. **Epigraphy**

The stone inscriptions secured during the year represent kings belonging to several of the dynasties that held sway in the Madras Presidency such as Pallava, Chōla, Pāndya, Eastern Chālukya, Alupa and Vijayanagara. A hero stone, standing at Lalgudi, bears an inscription of the time of the Pallava King Nandippōttavarman "the Victor of Tellāru" and gives interesting information regarding the killing of a Brahman of the Śaiva-*matha* attached to the temple of Ariñjigai-Iśvara at Parāntakapuram by the soldiers of the Bāna King Māvali, during their attack on the priests defending the *matha*. An early Ālupa inscription of the 9th century A.D. refers to the death in battle of a certain Yuddhamalla when Ranakisara marched against Udayapura. The two inscriptions from the Rāmnād district dated in the reigns of Kulōttuñga and Vikrama-Chōla record political compacts

entered into by certain chieftains to safeguard their life, honour and possessions. They are valuable for the light they throw on the prevailing unrest in the country during the 13th century A.D. Of the Vijayanagara records, three from the South Kanara district dated in the reigns of Bukka and Harihara, record endowments to certain temples left in charge of the Śaiva teachers Vidyaranya-Śrīpāda, his disciple Śaṅkarāranya-Śrīpāda and Vidyāgurutīrtha-Śrīpāda.

CHAPTER IX

MISCELLANEOUS

ECCLESIASTICAL JURISDICTION

310. *Vide* pages 259 to 262 of the Report on the administration of the Madras Presidency for the year 1921-22.

ECCLESIASTICAL (1928-29)

Church of England

311. On the 31st March 1929 there were 288 clerks in Holy Orders officiating under the licence of the Bishop of Madras. Of these 106 were officiating under the episcopal charge of the Bishop in Tinnevelly and Madura and 95 under the Bishop of Dornakal. The Bishop returned from leave on 6th October 1928 and assumed charge of the diocese. Three chaplains were granted long leave out of India prior to retirement and one chaplain was granted leave for 15 months on account of ill-health. During the year one European and one Indian were ordained priests by the Bishop of Madras, while the Bishop in Tinnevelly and Madura ordained eleven Indian deacons and one European priest. The Bishop of Dornakal ordained under the commission from the Bishop of Madras, five deacons all of whom were Indians. One European deacon was also ordained during the year. Twenty clergymen received licences to officiate as chaplains, missionaries or Indian pastors. Of these licences eight were issued by the Bishop in Tinnevelly and Madura and five by the Bishop of Dornakal. No churches or cemeteries were consecrated during the year.

Alms and other offerings made through clergymen ministering to English congregations during the year amounted to Rs. 2,07,227 exclusive of those at Dowlaishweram, Kumbakōnam and Whitefield.

Church of Scotland

312. The establishment of the Church of Scotland consisted of the Presidency Senior Chaplain at Madras, one chaplain at Bangalore and one chaplain at Secunderabad.

STATIONERY (1928-29)

Opening balance

313. The value of stock with the Superintendent of Stationery at the beginning of the year 1928-29 was Rs. 5,51,657 (English stores Rs. 3,90,569 and Indian stores Rs. 1,61,088) as against Rs. 6,78,206 (English stores Rs. 4,94,001 and Indian stores Rs. 1,84,205) in 1927-28.

Receipts

The total value of stores received during the year amounted to Rs. 9,97,515 (English stores Rs. 6,38,591 and Indian stores Rs. 3,58,924) as against Rs. 10,08,171 (English stores Rs. 5,77,646 and Indian stores Rs. 4,30,525) in 1927-28.

Issues

The total value of stores issued during the year amounted to Rs. 11,57,443 (English stores Rs. 7,46,055 and Indian stores Rs. 4,11,388) as compared with Rs. 11,34,720 (English stores Rs. 6,81,078 and Indian stores Rs. 4,53,642) in 1927-28.

Local funds

The value of stationery debited to local funds, etc., and of stationery issued on payment during the year amounted to Rs. 38,273 as against Rs. 34,899 in 1927-28.

Closing balance

The value of the closing balance of stores for the year was Rs. 3,91,729 (English stores Rs. 2,83,105 and Indian stores Rs. 1,08,624) as against Rs. 5,51,657 (English stores Rs. 3,90,569 and Indian stores Rs. 1,61,088) in 1927-28.

GOVERNMENT PRESS (1928-29)

Finance

314. The receipts during the year amounted to Rs. 2,41,731 as compared with Rs. 2,51,880 in the previous year. The reduction was chiefly due to a smaller credit on account of sales of unserviceable plant and the lower value of types manufactured for renewal and replacement. The net expenditure amounted to Rs. 9,36,506 as against Rs. 8,59,796 in the previous year, the increase

being almost entirely under "Provision for Depreciation." This was due to the adjustment of book value of unserviceable plant written off in the years 1925-26 to 1927-28.

Publications

315. Acts and books to the stock value of Rs. 24,267 were added during the year and sales, including those of the commission agents, amounted to Rs. 25,617. The sales effected through agents amounted to Rs. 4,577 against Rs. 4,432 in the previous year. The value of repealed Acts and obsolete publications written off during the year was Rs. 1,996. Free issues amounted to Rs. 53,678 as against Rs. 56,356 in the previous year; the decrease was due to the fact that less expensive publications were distributed during the year. The total number of books, gazettes, papers, etc., supplied, apart from sales, was 482,774 including 39,366 copies of Government proceedings and other papers placed at the disposal of the Press.

Printing and binding

316. The total work charges in respect of printing and binding amounted to Rs. 8,74,940, the cost of paper and binding materials to Rs. 2,27,053 and the cost of maps, stereos and blocks to Rs. 27,063.

Miscellaneous

317. The production of types, monotype leads and rules, materials and plates in the type-foundry during the year was 71,910 lb. The expenditure on the supply of, and repairs to, rubber stamps amounted to Rs. 5,190. The total number of covers and forms printed for supply during the year was 167 millions against 155 millions in the previous year.

Plant to the value of Rs. 93,398 was added during the year. The book value of the plant, after deducting depreciation at the close of the year, was Rs. 13,20,972. The closing balance of the stock of stores was Rs. 1,80,466 against Rs. 1,77,111 in the previous year, the increase being due to a larger stock of paper on hand at the end of the year.

Printing bills on account of Government work executed at private presses passed during the year amounted to Rs. 3,804 as against Rs. 3,097 in the previous year, the increase being due to the printing of posters relating to the National

Health and Baby Week. The value of bills checked for private bodies rose from Rs. 43,263 to Rs. 53,414. The increase was due to the scrutiny of a larger number of printing bills for the Madras University.

THE CHEMICAL EXAMINER'S DEPARTMENT (1928)

[*Annual Report of the Chemical Examiner's Department; Statistical Abstract for British India—Medico-legal investigations*]

General

318. The steady increase in the work of the Chemical Examiner's department continued in the year under report. The total number of analyses performed was 6,076 as compared with 5,476 in the previous year. The increase occurred both in medico-legal and general analyses, particularly in the number of articles examined in connexion with cases of suspected human poisoning. The teaching of the portion of forensic medicine relating to fibres, poisons and blood and seminal stains to the students of the Madras Medical College was entrusted to the Chemical Examiner during the year.

Medico-legal analyses

Human poisoning

319. Two hundred and eighty-six cases of suspected human poisoning, involving the examination of 1,878 articles, were investigated and poison was detected in 126 cases. Mercury was found in 22 cases, opium in 18 cases and arsenic in 13 cases.

Animal poisoning

The number of cases of animal poisoning investigated was 53 as compared with 54 in the previous year. As in 1927 the most common animal poisons were arsenic and yellow oleander.

Stain cases

There were 656 cases, involving 2,839 articles, investigated for blood and seminal stains as compared with 618 cases with 2,800 articles in the previous year. The number of articles examined in 1924 was only 1,716. The steady growth in the number shows that all serious offences are being more scientifically investigated.

General analyses

320. The total number of articles examined was 1,084 as against 755 in the previous year, the

increase being chiefly due to the large number of analyses for the Customs and Military departments. Seven hundred and sixteen articles were examined for the Customs department, 135 for the Military department, 149 for the departments of the Government of Madras and 84 for private parties. A beginning was made in the investigation of *Cerbera Thevetia* during the year.

CHARITABLE INSTITUTIONS (1928-29)

Institutions

321. There were 3,677 charitable institutions in the Presidency with an income of Rs. 23,26,353, 20 muras of rice and 1,059 bags of paddy. Of these, 2,351 institutions were maintained entirely by endowments of land and money and subscriptions and donations from the general public, the total receipts amounting to Rs. 11·95 lakhs. Three hundred and twenty-nine institutions were supported by Government at a cost of Rs. 2·7 lakhs and 229 were maintained partly by Government and partly by the public at a cost of Rs. 3·86 lakhs. The maintenance of the remaining 768 institutions costing Rs. 4·73 lakhs devolved wholly or in part on local bodies.

Purpose of institutions

Two thousand two hundred and seventy-eight institutions were for the relief of travellers. Of these 1,148 were for Hindus, 58 for Muhammadans, 2 for Europeans and East Indians and 1,070 were for all communities. Six hundred and three institutions were for the relief of Brahmans, of which 561 were entirely supported by the general public. The number of institutions intended for the relief of paupers was 667, while the total number for the blind, the deaf, orphans and lepers was only 39. The aggregate number of persons aided during the year by all the charitable institutions is reported to be 18,751,759.

Triplicane Langarkhana

322. The receipts of the Triplicane Langarkhana including an opening balance of Rs. 252-9-3 amounted to Rs. 5,128-5-3 as against Rs. 5,090-12-8 in the previous year. The daily average number of paupers who received help from the institution was 177 as compared with 176 in the previous year.

Monegar Choultry

323. The total number of admissions to the Monegar Choultry rose from 44 in 1927–28 to 116 in the year under report. The average daily number of inmates fell from 71·7 to 55·2. The fall in the average number of inmates is due to the decision of the Board of Directors fixing the maximum number of inmates in the Choultry at 60. The Directors, however, raised the maximum number to 75 on 12th September 1928. The average daily cost of diet per pauper was As. 3–3 as compared with As. 3–5 in the previous year, in spite of the fact that a better and more nourishing food was prescribed during the year under review. The total receipts of the year amounted to Rs. 11,110 and the expenditure to Rs. 7,344.

Raja of Venkatagiri Choultry

324. The average daily number of outdoor paupers receiving rice at the Choultry was 141·5 as compared with 145·09 in the previous year. The total receipts for the year 1928–29 amounted to Rs. 4,227 and the total expenditure to Rs. 4,157. The cost of rice for outdoor paupers in the year under report was Rs. 3,541 as against Rs. 3,709 in the previous year.

COMMUNAL REPRESENTATION IN THE SERVICE OF GOVERNMENT (1928–29)

325. The number of Government servants from each community, employed in the service of Government, on the 1st April 1929, is shown in the following table :—

Community.	Gazetted officers in permanent appointment.	Non-gazetted officers in permanent appointments on a pay of		
		Rs. 100 and over.	Rs. 35 and upwards but below Rs. 100.	Less than Rs. 35.
Brahmans	620	3,806	10,171	1,296
Non-Brahman Hindus ...	327	2,127	7,770	34,703
Depressed classes	...	8	84	1,479
Muhammadans	74	339	1,770	10,929
Non-Asiatics and Anglo-Indians	508	475	101	67
Indian Christians	125	538	1,326	2,386
Others	17	5	22	349

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PART I—(1929)

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